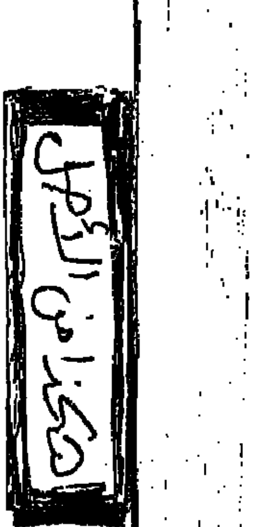


The German Tribune

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EEC leaders unite against inflation

Will a "European Union" come into being before the seventies are out? Of all people it was French President Georges Pompidou who came out with such an optimistic hope at the Paris Summit. He was the least likely participant at the conference to mention this.

This was a point on which he had previously conferred with Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt and the two heads of State had reached an agreement. And so at least to the satisfaction of these two men the final word has been said on an important much-debated theme that has been carried out over many years with the vehemence of a theological discussion. The matter under discussion was whether the policy of European union was designed to lead to a confederation of States or indeed to a federal State.

The two heads of State took their guidelines from the real potential for rapprochement in practical spheres, which meant first and foremost extension of the EEC to form an Economic and Monetary Union. As they see it there would not be much point in viewing the policy of unification in the stages that have already been achieved or are in the planning stage along the lines of the build-up of a State as it is described in works of reference. The British cannot but agree with this. We have yet to hear a politician from Whitehall enthusing about the idea of a major European State with a single government at its head. The Danes and Irish certainly agree.

In Paris pragmatism has gained sway. Maybe many Europeans – the French excepted – believed until recently that the reorientation or the extension of supra-national political institutions has a great deal of innate merit and that this would add its weight to the intensity of the policy of unification, but now a much more sober appraisal of the situation has come to the fore.

In future new institutions will only be created when such a high degree of cooperation has been reached in the individual spheres of cooperation that further progress cannot be made without the setting up of new bodies.

It is only in this light that we can understand why the conference decided without major upheavals to call for a series of expert reports on the possibilities of political expansion of the Community. This applies, for instance, to future extensions of the rights of the European Parliament. It also applies to cooperation among European foreign ministers, which is not limited to specific subjects. But the heads of government have for the time being postponed answering the question of whether new methods and new institutions for coordination are to be introduced.

Turning the Community into a joint venture to fight inflation was not difficult, since all member countries and applicants are groaning under the burden of inflation. But not until the ministers responsible get together at the end of the month in Luxembourg will all the problems involved in setting up the European Currency Reserve Fund or the pooling of the currency reserves of European banks of issue be thrashed out.

Chancellor Willy Brandt of the Federal Republic refrained from using hard words to his colleagues, as they could easily have been interpreted as threats. But in a smaller circle he left no doubts in Paris *about this country's position. Unless* there are guaranteed parallels between currency policies and industrial policies the Federal Republic will not agree to the second stage of the transition to the EMU which is scheduled for 1 January 1974.

Since budgetary policy and incomes policies are component parts of economic steering gear it is easy to make predictions: for instance France, which is enjoying rapid expansion, will be agin, as will Britain, which is trying hard to cope with high unemployment.

One thing is certain: stability in the widest sense of the word has an existential significance for Western countries today similar to the significance of the Cold War for their external security in the fifties. This conference provided clear evidence that the shift of priorities has been towards political matters.



Five heads of government from the Nine in front of the Elysée Palace from the left, Jack Lynch of Eire, Anker Joergensen, Denmark, Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt, Barend Biesheuvel, The Netherlands, President Georges Pompidou of France and British Prime Minister Edward Heath. (Photo: dpa)

At any rate the joint fight on inflation announced at the Summit shows that many people have only just become aware of the incomparable progress envied all over the world that has been made in Europe in the direction of prosperity and a high standard of living and how this is now jeopardised.

The attempt made at the Summit to reach a joint agreement of all EEC countries of foreign relations corresponds to these insights into the internal constitution of the Community of Nine. These *relations too, do not appear to the heads* of government at the moment to be a political problem in the classical sense.

There has been no debate about whether the EEC would like to develop into a fourth or fifth world power. But the foreign trade of such a gigantic economic setup is at one and the same time the most important aspect of EEC *States' foreign policy considerations.*

Thus Western Europe in its foreign relations orientates on the major correlation of economic and currency policies. For the Federal Republic for instance it has always been a matter of course that close contact should be kept up with America and constant watches should be kept on the mutual interests of Europe and the United States to see that they do not come into conflict. The fact that a similar attitude has now been quite clearly announced means that there are prospects in future of the Nine agreeing in their attitude towards the United *States.*

From whichever aspect one views the progress of the EEC Western European policies today are a guiding factor for a stable economy and currency. From this development there will arise quite naturally and automatically an increase in political institutions in the Community, since the problems that will be thrown up in the future cannot be mastered in any other way.

Kurt Becker
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 21 October 1972)

IN THIS ISSUE

European union – a ray of hope for 1980

On one point at least it can be said that the Paris Summit, while not coming to a brilliant conclusion, did make a firm and decisive step forward. The French are to have the European Currency Reserve Fund they desire and the Summit even decided on the scope of this Good Samaritan organisation for EEC countries in financial straits: 4,300 million Marks. The Fund is to begin operations next April.

The Paris conference decision did not contain that clause that President Pompidou told Karl Schiller was a "clause de *prudence", namely that the setting up of* the reserve fund should be coupled with concrete progress in the adjustment of economic, monetary and industrial policies in EEC countries.

What remains is the Summit's vague promise to strengthen the Community by means of an economic and monetary union. But when? And how?

For the time being the decision is to meet more often, the Council of Ministers in Brussels will hold more frequent sessions and perhaps there will be a new category of European governmental representatives set up.

But these meetings will not automatically carry any compulsion to agree to a community economic and monetary policy and so Brussels will once again be the scene of verbal trials of strength. After the consultations have finished each will go his own separate way and make his own economic policies, according to his own needs.

Joint struggles against inflation? There is much scepticism, since Helmut Schmidt has repeatedly pointed to the great American balance of payments deficit which is the root of all evil.

There remains the topic of political cooperation in Europe. There is no more likelihood of a political secretariat as the heart of a European government being set up than the much talked about increased democratisation of European authorities *in Brussels by an increase in the powers* of the European Parliament becoming a reality.

At any rate European foreign ministers will be holding consultations four times a year, and one significant achievement that did emerge from the conference was the announcement that the nine members hoped to have converted the totality of their relations to one another to a complete European Union by 1980.

This is the real ray of hope to be seen at the conference, but even then no one can predict the quality of this projected union. At any rate it is a goal, and it will be worthwhile making sacrifices to help bring it to fulfilment as long as all the promises remain binding through the long years to 1980.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 21 October 1972)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

America and the European security conference

DIE ZEIT

The Americans have long been against the Soviet-inspired plan to convene a conference on security and cooperation in Europe but resistance gave way to hesitant approval as the gravest differences of the Cold War were increasingly resolved.

They nonetheless remain decidedly sceptical about the projected mammoth conference, one reason being the number of participants. Thirty-four countries have already agreed to take part. Only Andorra and Monaco have declined and Albania has not made its intentions known.

With so many countries representing such a variety of interests unforeseen constellations and alliances may well arise at the conference table.

Currently Washington considers the conference to be inevitable, though, President Nixon having given the project his approval in principle at the Moscow summit in May, even going so far as to formulate, in the joint US-Soviet fundamental declaration, a number of principles that might serve the conference as guidelines.

Consequently the Americans have of late concentrated on trying to outline the progress the conference might make in its initial stages.

For several months a group of some half a dozen high-ranking officials in the European section of the State Department have been doing nothing else, working in close cooperation with the specialists on Henry Kissinger's National Security Council and with military experts at the Pentagon.

This group handles consultations with America's allies via the North Atlantic Council in Brussels. In theory, of course, the conference is not intended to be a succession of negotiations between the blocs, but in practice Nato and Warsaw Pact members will adopt a common approach, France on the one hand and Rumania on the other taking care to underline their respective independence.

The idea of a European conference was first mooted at the February 1954 Berlin meeting of Allied Foreign Ministers by the Soviet Union, which in those days was only prepared to allow the United States observer status, making it rather too evident that the Soviet aim was to hustle the Americans out of Europe.

Once it was apparent that the prospects of a European security conference under these terms were zero Foreign Minister Adam Rapacki of Poland, addressing the UN General Assembly in December 1964, reactivated the project by offering the United States full participation.

Since then the Warsaw Pact countries have made successively more definite approaches with varying shifts of emphasis via the declarations of Bucharest, Warsaw, Prague and Budapest.

Gradually a general renunciation of the use of force and economic, technological and scientific cooperation have emerged as the projected agenda items.

Since April 1969 Nato has been prepared to sound out the possibilities provided other undertakings such as the Salt talks, the Four-Power negotiations on Berlin and Bonn's endeavours to come to terms with its neighbours to the East made progress.

As these endeavours have led to practical results the Finnish government has been able, with the tacit consent or active encouragement of members of both blocs, been able to extend an invitation to ambassadors of countries on both sides to attend preliminary talks.

According to the current schedule this preliminary round of talks is due to commence in Helsinki on 22 November. The full session of the "Conference on security and cooperation in Europe" could then get under way next summer.

The final handicap was overcome when the Soviet Union, in the course of negotiations with President Nixon's National Security Adviser, Henry Kissinger, agreed to the holding of MBFR talks at the same time. The talks on a mutual balanced force reduction in Europe are due to begin at the end of January.

The Americans are working on the assumption that the status quo is unchangeable for the time being but they are by no means prepared to allow the conference to be used as a means of expressing formal all-European approval of the existing situation such as would suit the Soviet Union.

America has three aims in mind. Firstly, East-West agreements in Europe must lead to a lasting freedom of communication approximating to normal intellectual and personal international contacts.

Secondly, an attempt is to be made to bring about a binding declaration of principle on international relations that extends beyond paper renunciation of the use of force and effectively reduces the risk of threats, blackmail and conflict.

Thirdly, MBFR measures to be negotiated by the countries immediately concerned at a separate conference are to be incorporated in the agreements reached by the conference on security and cooperation.

For the time being the Americans are

Continued on page 3

New Delhi recognises East Berlin but still supports reunification

Hannoversche Allgemeine

As so many foreign policy decisions are, India's resolve to establish full diplomatic relations with the GDR is due to domestic motives. The Indian government has long been under pressure from Communists and communist supporters to show willing towards the East on this issue. New Delhi long refused to do so but has now given in.

Bonn can hardly argue. Having itself declared that both German states are to apply for membership of the United Nations in the foreseeable future Bonn has indeed paved the way for international recognition of the GDR.

It is, of course, none too gratifying that India has gone ahead and acted before the fundamental treaty between Bonn and East Berlin has been signed, but how can one expect a country in far-off Asia not to do today what it is to be allowed to do tomorrow!

Now that negotiations between the two German states are progressing faster than expected it no longer matters quite so much whether the floodgates of recognition are opened earlier or later. The GDR will be accorded diplomatic recognition by the overwhelming majority of countries next year anyway.

New Delhi has, moreover, taken Bonn's objections into account by declaring that India continues to respect the desire of the German people for an end to division. This statement will be of no practical significance, however. Further developments in Europe will not be dependent on the attitudes of Asian and African countries.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 9 October 1972)

Bonn and East Berlin sign transport agreement

Three years ago it would have been a sensation, two years ago it would have come as a surprise to many people in this country, nowadays there would seem to be nothing out of the ordinary about State Secretaries from the GDR and this country exchanging notes from their respective governments in the Chancellor's bungalow in the grounds of Palais Schaumburg, Bonn.

It is as well to bear this scene in mind when considering how much relations between the two German States have changed in recent years.

From now on similar encounters will have their effect not only on relations between officials of both governments but also on contacts between friends and relations in the GDR and the Federal Republic.

The transport treaty that has now come into force may contain only provisions that might seem a matter of course but there can be no denying that the contents have not, in the past, been anything of the kind.

The form the agreement has taken has been so skilfully negotiated that neither government has had to depart from its fundamental point of view. Fundamental issues on which the two are at loggerheads may not have been dealt with but at least a start has been made.

The GDR has thus not insisted that with this country that is valid by the terms of international law. At the same time the Federal government has not been compelled to recognise the GDR officially as a foreign country.

The GDR has thus not insisted that this country embrace its viewpoint. If anything the GDR has departed from its past view that treaties between the two governments would only be possible once the other side, namely the Federal Republic, had recognised the other German State as a foreign country.

This may be the case but it is no occasion for rejoicing by this country. Small wonder that coalition politicians, starting with Willy Brandt and Egon Bahr, have expressed no more than subdued satisfaction at the coming into force of the treaty.

An older prominent Social Democrat put it best when he admitted that his party knew well enough from personal experience who it was negotiating and concluding agreements with. But by failing to do so, he continued, his party would alter nothing, neither for this country nor for communist-ruled Germans.

There may, then, be no call for rejoicing but there is every occasion for a sober assessment of the situation and future prospects.

The transport treaty was a carefully considered move to which the Opposition had no objections. It is based on the facts of life of post-war Germany, facts attributable primarily to Hitler's and German misdeeds. They had to be taken into account by both this country and the GDR.

There have been no alterations to the status quo in either direction. What has happened is that road, rail and water transport between the two German States has been set on a sound legal footing, in return for which the GDR will carry out its undertaking to facilitate private travel between the two.

This does not mean an end to the order to GDR border patrols to open fire on would-be refugees to the Federal Republic and West Berlin, a controversial issue that has again made headlines of late. Despite the facilitation of private travel the frontier emplacements and minefields will not disappear from the face of the Earth either.

The question is: Would they have been dismantled either now or in the foreseeable future had no transport treaty been concluded between the two German States? The answer is quite definitely: No.

What is more, the transport treaty forms part of a Western policy aimed at relaxing tension in general and in Central Europe and between the two German States in particular.

Recent decisions by the GDR People's Chamber and other moves indicate, moreover, that the facilitation of travel to the GDR is not the only progress that has been achieved in this context.

The responsibilities of the GDR Council of State have been further reduced and transferred to the Council of Ministers and the status of "refugees from the (German Democratic) Republic" has also been settled satisfactorily.

A few weeks ago thousands of prisoners were freed by the terms of an amnesty and many of them had been imprisoned for political reasons. Over the last three years many thousands more have been released and been quietly sent to this country.

This is not to say that the GDR has become a country in which freedom, democracy and humanity mean the same as they do here. But the changes do represent a step in the right direction.

Now the situation may seem to be improving but thorough consideration must be given to all future moves, the negotiations on a "basic treaty" between Bonn and East Berlin having ground to a halt on a number of points.

The transport treaty has demonstrated that the GDR can be inclined to adapt to the existing situation. Unwelcome states of affairs cannot simply be dismissed as "phenomena", nor can they be erased merely by continual repetition of one's own demands.

To this extent the Federal Republic has learnt more of a lesson than the GDR.

Hans Dieter Kloss

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 19 October 1972)

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■ THE 1972 CAMPAIGN

Nine parties are running in the November elections

Nine parties have announced that they plan to take part in this year's general election to the seventh Bundestag. The four parties already in the Bundestag did not need to announce their renewed candidature. Five of the "newcomers" were given their chance. So on 19 November the electorate will have nine parties to choose from (as opposed to fourteen in 1969).

They are the Sozialdemokratische Partei Deutschlands (SPD), Christlich-Demokratische Union (CDU), Christlich-Soziale Union (CSU), Freie Demokratische Partei (FDP), Deutsche Kommunistische Partei (DKP), National-Demokratische Partei Deutschlands (NPD), die Europäische Föderalistische Partei, die Freisoziale Union – Demokratische Mitte and die unabhängige Arbeiterpartei – Deutsche Sozialisten (independent workers party . . .).

"The party *Intereuro* has taken part at many Federal elections. I hereby announce that I shall participate at the forthcoming general election." The postcard with these words has since 1965 brought a smile to the lips of a panel of men who normally have to wade through dry-as-dust material. They are the *Bundeswahlausschuss* and according to the law of the land they must decide not less than 37 days before the nation goes to the polls which parties shall be permitted to put up for election.

Sure enough the postcard turned up again this year. The author: H. Norbert, poste restante, 4000 Düsseldorf. With his not exactly copperplate handwriting Herr Norbert has once again applied to be admitted to the elections. It's his third attempt and once again the answer was No.

Along with the semi-anonymous go-it-aloner Herr Norbert one Alois Bude, roly-poly Chairman of the Ostdeutsche Volkspartei also failed to make it over this first hurdle. He came to Bonn with a two-man team from Speyer to defend his application before the panel personally, but after ten minutes of discussion he left their chambers grumbling, "We're going to Karlsruhe," he told the seven-man panel. He intends to win from the Constitutional Court what was denied him by the panel, the right to stand for election.

Herr Bude refuses to comply with the regulation that demands he must declare the number of members in his party. "We have at least seven," he said. "That is enough." He also believes that he is not in any way forced to tender his signature and calls to witness a Higher Authority: "We belong wherever God calls us," he said.

The panel is made up of Hildegard Bartels (President of the Federal Statistics Office) who is its Chairman and holds the rank of *Bundeswahlleiterin*, and six representatives of the parties (two SPD, two CDU, one FDP, one CSU). Its job is to carry out the organisational work behind the election and it is agreed unanimously that it has a non-party character.

Another party to be turned away was the separatist-conservative Bayernpartei (Bavarian party). They were called upon to produce the signature of their party Chairman but failed to do so.

The other communist group, KPD, was rejected. The Kommunistische Partei Deutschlands was told by telephone that its application had been "lost in a fog". But even if it had come closer to acceptance the KPD would have been rejected on the grounds that it does not meet the legal requirements.

But the DKP had no difficulty gaining entry. Its papers were all in order and no member of the panel raised any objection. The DKP delegation, led by experienced front-line campaigner Jupp Angenfort, nevertheless used this favourable opportunity to put in a public appearance.

Bruno Löwe

(Vorwärts, 19 October 1972)

Continued from page 2

also opposed to the establishment of a permanent conference secretariat. They want to prevent the conference from reaching no convincing practical conclusions, instead bequeathing to international affairs a propaganda forum in which agitation aimed at decimating US influence can be launched.

Washington is by no means well-disposed towards the idea of pulling out of Europe and leaving it to the Soviet Union's tender mercies. American troops will thus remain stationed in Europe as a visible safeguard until such time as the Continent runs no further risk of being dominated by a foreign power.

Joachim Schwelien

(Die Zeit, 13 October 1972)

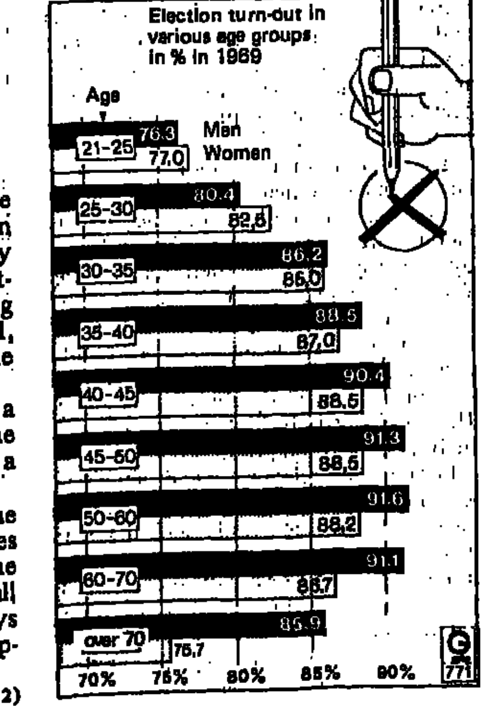
Scheel dismisses idea of anything but FDP-SPD coalition

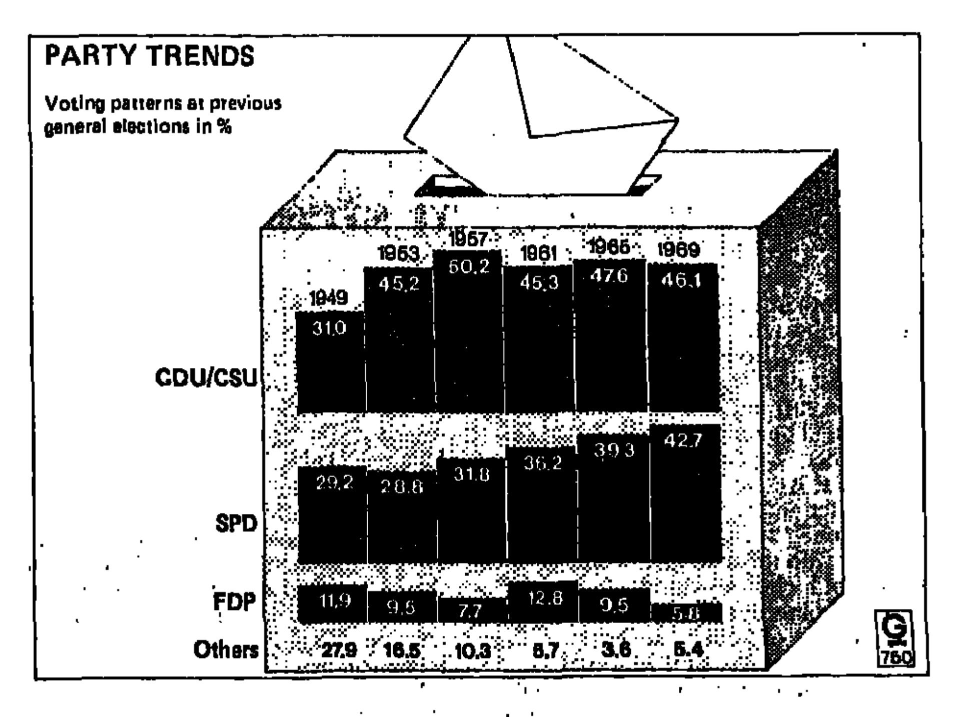
Foreign Minister Walter Scheel, the Free Democratic leader, dismissed on 2 October the possibility of his party entering into a coalition with the Christian Democrats after the forthcoming general election. The FDP, he said, intended to retain its coalition with the Social Democrats.

Even if the CDU/CSU were to gain a one-seat majority in the Bundestag the Free Democrats would not consider a coalition with them.

This did not, however, mean that the Free Democrats intended to join forces with the SPD for all time. Were the CDU/CSU to adopt what he chose to call a more liberal approach one of these days the FDP might well reconsider its approach.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 3 October 1972)





Electioneering hots up as election day approaches

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

"A touch of gaiety is what we need," said FDP general secretary Karl-Hermann Flach as he presented the FDP's election campaign programme. He showed what he meant next day when his usual sober dress made way for a brightly patterned tie in the blue and yellow colours the Free Democrats have adopted for their election run-in.

Campaign strategists have an arsenal full of fireworks to brighten up the election campaigns of the various parties. They will be strewn like confetti among the voters in the coming weeks. Apart from the traditional paper flags with party initials there will be ball-pens, decks of cards, balloons, a Hamburg tram, letter-openers, shirts, raincoats and even imitation thousand-Mark notes printed on cloths to carry the party messages.

Those who do not mind who knows which way they vote will wear party badges in their lapels, carry stickers on their cars and the like to try to persuade floating voters. Many of the CDU and CSU leaflets bear the colours of the Munich Olympics. An orange coloured button signifies one's allegiance to the SPD. Posters are by and large in powerful, gay bubble-gum colours.

The well-known faces of the CDU front line beam from a blue background, which may conjure up pictures of that summer holiday in the sunny south or even the blue skies that Willy Brandt promised the Ruhr when he put up for Chancellor.

In brief it seems as if the parties are most concerned that this election in a grey November should brighten things up for the electorate.

The CDU has had its own pop song composed selling at 2.50 Marks a record! Minimum order is 25 copies as it is meant to be sold to local party organisations. The SPD's musical accompaniment has been restricted to a new arrangement of the background music behind their 1969 TV ads.

Since its entertainment programmes have not enjoyed great success in the past the CDU has this time signed up the well-known disc-jockey Dieter Thomas Heck. He is doing 63 shows around the country – the first one had a packed house – at which he is presenting the local candidate, and for the young voter there is fair helping of pop stars too. Candidates are ready to retire to a nearby room to discuss more serious matters with more serious voters and the rooms are of course soundproofed! This project cost about 500,000 Marks. A ticket to the show costs five.

There is plenty of gaiety behind the campaign launched by the SPD and FDP, too. Günter Grass, author of the bestseller *The Tin Drum*, is urging youngsters to put a special request on their list of Christmas presents this year: Ask your parents and grandparents to give you an SPD government, he urges them.

The FDP's slogan is the "blue triangle" the parody of the road-sign by means of which the Free Democrats are promising "the right of way for reason".

The CDU has not finally decided if it should send out too many celebrities on the road for its cause – but it has signed up several names from the world of sport, art, science and literature, just in case.

Heinzgünter Klein

(Der Tagesspiegel, 15 October 1972)

Party popularity figures influence voters

One in eight people in the Federal Republic – fourteen per cent of men ant twelve per cent of women – is wholly and exclusively dependent on the prognoses of demographers for his voting decision, according to a survey of 2,067 people with the franchise carried out over a fortnight by the Wickert Institute in Tübingen. They were asked: "Do you take note of the results of surveys when making your decision at the polls?"

Researchers say that in the case of eighty per cent of male voters and 84 per cent of the fair sex a certain amount of attention is paid to what the electoral clairvoyants predict, while six per cent of men and four per cent of women pay little or no attention to what the rest of the country is thinking when making their own decision.

Two-thirds of those questioned were against figures for the popularity of parties being published shortly before elections. Only one in three had no objections. 61 per cent said they followed the demographic figures regularly.

As a result of this survey of the surveyors' Wickert repeated their 1965 pledge not to publish party popularity figures during the election run-in and urged others to follow their lead.

(Die Welt, 15 October 1972)

■ LABOUR

Working women's twin role results in stress

A mother of three children, once a mathematics and physics teacher but now only a housewife, made a remark that most people affected by the current euphoria surrounding women's emancipation would be only too eager to ignore.

"Perfect organisation alone is not enough if we are to master the twin role of mother and worker," she said during a discussion. "It seems to me that those women who most want to combine their household chores with looking after a family, going out to work and indulging in a number of hobbies are not particularly interested in any of their duties.

"They are only trying to cover up their own emptiness and restlessness by being active. They point to the stress caused by their twin role but only do everything at half-pace and are admired for it as well.

"Our society concentrates too much on measurable achievements and external success and is bound to express its admiration for any person occupied by a large number of duties.

"But these women are only pretending to cope with the demands imposed by their twin role. This is no more than the tip of the iceberg. Beneath the surface none of the problems are solved.

"Being a mother is a full-time job for a woman – it is the same as going out to work. Day nurseries and part-time jobs are no solution. Women must make up their minds to be one thing or the other. Women who want to carry on with their work must do without children."

Many mothers of course do not have this choice. They have to go out to work to help out the family budget. But, ignoring this sizeable group, it is worthwhile considering this view, especially as a report on working women has just been issued containing a number of surprising details alongside the facts that have long been known.

The survey was conducted by the Common Market authorities and five well-known European women's magazines. Professor Helge Pross, the Giessen sociologist, headed the work carried out in this country.

The survey concentrates on private industry, apart from agriculture, and seven thousand working women from the six Common Market countries were interviewed. A total of 1,300 of these came from the Federal Republic. No women working in the public services were covered.

The report confirmed known or assumed facts. Of the 9.2 million working women in the Federal Republic 52 per cent are married, 43 per cent have children to take care of and 25 per cent are unmarried, widowed, divorced or separated.

Women form the lowest strata of professional hierarchy. Three quarters of all women workers are unskilled while thirteen per cent work in a skilled capacity.

Only 27 per cent of women workers carry out comparatively independent work in view of their better training. This category includes secretaries, technical draughtswomen, medical and technical assistants, nurses, librarians, social workers and departmental heads.

Fifty per cent of all women working in the Federal Republic have had only an elementary school education and one in three have broken off training courses, but 81 per cent claim that training is just as important for girls as boys and ought to last the same amount of time.

Forty per cent of all women workers are employed in offices, twenty per cent in factories and ten per cent in shops and retail stores.

Women earn less than men. On average they receive 25 per cent less. Half of all female salaried staff receive no more than six hundred Marks a month. Two thirds of female workers also come into this category. One quarter earn up to eight hundred Marks, twenty per cent up to 1,200 marks and four per cent more than 1,200 Marks a month.

Why do so many women stay at work after getting married despite the fact that their status and earnings are not all that much of an incentive? The survey revealed a number of interesting contradictions here.

Married women complain about the strain of going out to work and taking care of the family but three quarters of them want to be more than just housewives. But the more boring the job is and the more children they have, the more women tend to stay at home.

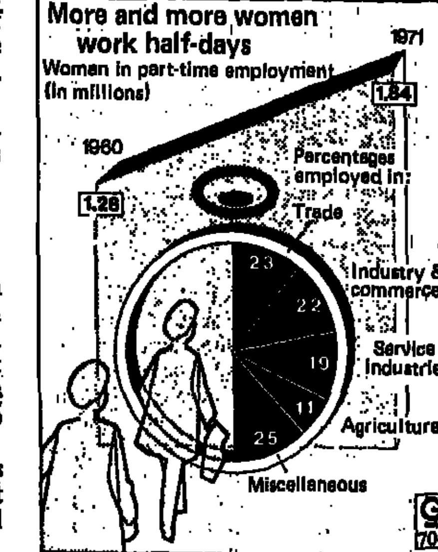
A remarkable feature is that fourteen to eighteen-year-old girls can imagine not working in future while 43 per cent think differently after getting married. This is due to economic reasons. Married women work to keep up their family's standard of living or increase it.

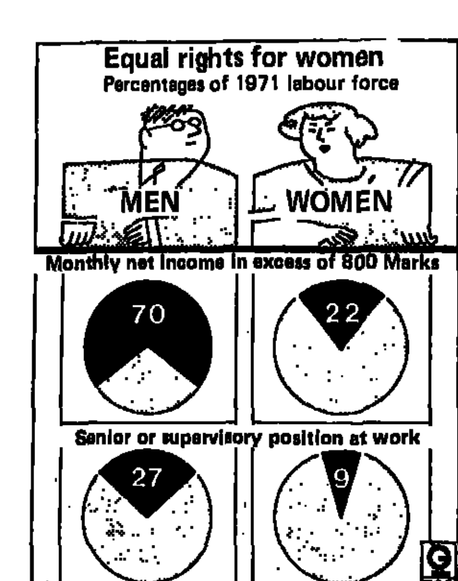
Only six per cent wanted to attain financial independence by going out to work. Even fewer were concerned about emancipation. Seventeen per cent stated that they went out to work as they enjoyed their job and liked meeting people.

Helge Pross states that most of these working women have come to terms with their professional role. They are not enthusiastic about going out to work but they are not bitter either and certainly not rebellious. Going out to work is a matter of routine to them. It is also a matter of routine that they do not get involved in their job. Why not, Helge Pross asks? The survey provided a number of answers. One of them was that most women still look upon their role as mother as a matter of fact. Work is no more than a subsidiary task and they do not pay much attention to it. But they do not want to sacrifice this extra source of income and send their children to helpful relations, kindergartens or day nurseries. As practical as these women may seem, they are rarely happy as they derive no benefit from their work.

When asked what they would like to change in their lives, none of them wanted to get to the bottom of the issue and put an end to the common belief that a woman's place is in the kitchen and with the family.

All they demanded were labour-saving devices and better working conditions. They called for more kitchen equipment, help from their husband in doing their household chores, more crèches and day nurseries, a supervision system to watch over their children as they did their homework, better pay, shorter working hours, longer holidays and less piecetime and assembly-line working.





Only one woman in five wanted more equality, less than two per cent demanded better training, no more than one per cent want more participation in decision-making and equal pay for equal work. None of them want promotion or better opportunities for getting ahead.

Working women in this country look upon their position pragmatically and not politically. They want to get the best out of their combined role but they do not want to do this themselves. They are waiting for someone else to take the lead.

And the men? Helge Pross states that most of them believe a woman's place is in the home. They help in the household chores – but no more than they must. Only three per cent help in all the chores, 33 per cent refuse to do any of the housework and sixty per cent help occasionally – usually by washing up, shopping or taking care of the children.

Grandmothers usually take care of the children when their mothers are out working – this occurs in 38 per cent of the cases. One working woman in four sends her children to kindergarten.

Mothers have to take time off work when their children are taken ill. Ninety per cent claim to have missed work in the past because of cases of sickness among their children.

The combined role of mother and breadwinner does give women workers a bad conscience. Asked what their children thought of them taking a job, only thirty per cent said their children did not mind. Forty per cent did not know what their children thought while 25 per cnet assumed that their children would feel neglected.

Women prefer a regular working day of eight or nine hours for these reasons. They do less overtime than men (fifty per cent) are home at weekends (75 per cent) and never work on Sundays or public holidays (ninety per cent). They also look for a job near their home despite the drawbacks. Eighteen per cent of them prefer part-time work.

The pattern of behaviour is the same among single women – and they make up more than two-thirds of the female labour force. This can only be explained by the way they see their role in life. What is the point of being trained and getting involved in a job if they are going to get married later, they ask. The family then takes up the first place in their life. But one in two do continue working. Their training is bad, their pay low and their mood is often poor.

Because of their divided loyalties, working women are often no more than a packhorse for the family and the firm where they work. Going out to work is not tantamount to emancipation. That is probably what the mother of three children meant.

Heike Mundzeck

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 7 October 1972)

Photo Porst sells shares to staff

Hannsheinz Porst, the Nuremberg manufacturer best known as Photo-Porst, has ceased being an employer and become one of the 1,400 members of staff working at his firm.

Porst, the Marxist millionaire, set the course of his firm's future policy with this gesture. Staff are to have a full share in decision-making.

The new system is based on a full share-out of profits among the firm's employees though the accumulated profits will be placed on special accounts and will still be used by the concern.

Within the next five years the board of managers hopes that enough capital will have been accumulated to outweigh the Porst family's fifteen million Mark share (to be subject in future to an interest rate of two per cent above Bank Rate).

The employees would then be the majority partner in the Porst group. Porst is deliberately surrendering all his powers as head of the firm. For his participation scheme to be successful even in the event if the firm gets into the red and every his personal fortune into the venture.

But this is where Porst's scheme of participation and co-responsibility may break down. How will the staff react when the firm gets into the red and every single employee has to cover the loss?

There has been little experience of this in the past. Speaking from the purely



Hannsheinz Porst

(Photo: Porst)

emotional point of view, however, employees would probably stick together when bad times came.

In view of this feeling of uncertainty a number of manufacturers experimenting with participation schemes of the same type as Porst's have not gone the whole hog and forced staff to share the risk of losses.

Instead, staff at these concerns only have a share in profits. As a result the company laws state that the powers of decision-making in questions of policy must also remain in the hands of the owner or major partner.

Hannsheinz Porst eliminates this inhibiting factor by stating that the members of his concern should be responsible for running the firm. Logically, the three managing directors, including Porst himself, are to be elected by the staff. They can also be voted out of office. Seen in this light, the go-ahead has been given towards making his concern more democratic.

There is some reason to doubt whether this participation euphoria will permit the speedy and flexible business strategy needed in many sectors of the market

Continued on page 5

■ FOREIGN WORKERS

Integration must have priority

There are signs of a change in the policy adopted by the Federal Republic towards foreign workers. For years the state of the labour market has been the major criterion in the recruitment of workers from abroad. Large numbers were brought to this country without sufficient attention being paid to their integration into society.

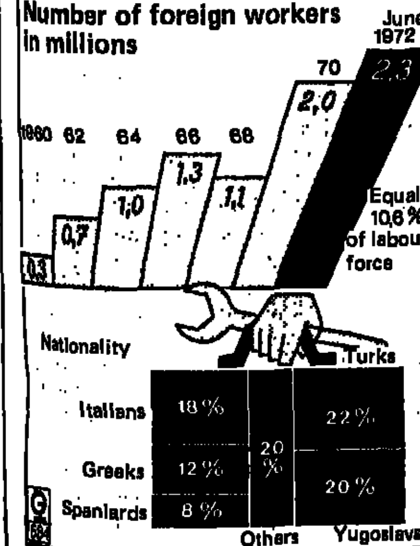
But it has now become plain that a policy based solely on the needs of industry will lead sooner or later to a dangerous dead end. The idea that the Yugoslavs, Italians, Turks, Greeks, Spanish and Portuguese come to the Federal Republic to earn as much money as quickly as possible before returning to their home countries has proved false.

There is an increasing amount of evidence that foreign workers are settling here, fetching their families from their homeland or marrying German girls. As early as 1968 just under thirty per cent of foreign workers had lived here for more than seven years. Fifty per cent had lived here for more than four years.

This trend will increase in future. Few of the six hundred thousand children of foreign origin in this country are likely to return to their parents' original homes.

Whether it likes it or not, the Federal Republic has become a centre of immigration. But most politicians have ignored the consequences of this for far too long. The way they are putting off the problems is criminal. A long-term conception of the foreign worker question has been needed for some time now.

The government has evidently realised this and plans to amend its policy in future to cope with the changed situation. It is late in the day though hopefully not too late.



One in 18 a foreigner
3.4 million foreigners live in FRG
Men 1,908,000
Women 970,000
Children 681,000
Britain 40, France 54, Arab world 57, USA 65, Portugal 75, Holland 109, Austria 163, Spain 270, Greece 395, Italy 590, Yugoslavia 594, Turkey 653 (in 1000)
1,000
Schleswig-Holstein 58, Bremen 30, Hamburg 111, West Berlin 151, North Rhine-Westphalia 971, Hesse 397, 219, Rhineland-Palatinate 124, Saar 40, Bavaria 545, Baden-Württemberg 793
As at January 1972
743

Minister of the Interior Hans-Dietrich Genscher announced recently that the first step would be a comprehensive study of the position of foreign workers in this country.

This move by the SPD-FDP coalition is no coincidence. Chancellor Willy Brandt's statements at election rallies show that many politicians in Bonn are disturbed about the number of foreign workers here – three and a half million – and believe that the Federal Republic has reached the limits of its capacity in playing host to any more.

When it is considered that foreign workers are tending to stay here longer and that many of them will settle here permanently, the immigration boom does seem problematical. There is justification for the increasingly heard query about whether foreign workers should be allowed into this country with practically no restrictions.

There are certainly a few million workers beyond our frontiers who are waiting for a job in what they consider to be a paradise on earth. The recruitment agency in Istanbul alone has over a million workers on its waiting list. But employing foreign workers here already poses considerable problems for our infrastructure.

It would be wrong to set up a kind of iron curtain and stop the flood of foreign workers completely. In view of the Italian workers this would be incompatible with Common Market regulations. Our economy cannot do without foreign workers for a variety of reasons – and this state of affairs will continue for a number of years.

But the government must get its priorities right in future. More emphasis must be placed on integrating those foreign workers already here instead of opening our doors to the unrestricted and uncontrolled entry of further battalions of immigrants.

Exporting their armies of unemployed does not solve the social and economic difficulties faced by those countries which supply most of the foreign labour force in the Federal Republic.

There is a lot to be said for Hans-Dietrich Genscher's suggestion that it may be better to increase our investment in those States and thus provide more jobs for workers who might otherwise come to the Federal Republic.

It will not prove easy to find long-term solutions for the problems arising from the millions of foreign workers in this country.

For years these people have been looked upon as no more than human production machines to do the jobs that the more affluent local worker has been unwilling to do. They have been just about tolerated as a temporary and necessary evil.

If it had not been for the foreign workers, our economy would not have reached the stage where it is looked upon with respect all over the world. If it were not for the foreign workers many sectors of society, ranging from refuse disposal to the hospitals, would collapse.

But most foreigners remain second-class citizens. They have none of the normal citizens' voting rights, they are treated like lepers by a certain section of the population and often exploited by unscrupulous landlords.

Their children enter a vicious circle that can prove fateful. They are not given enough help at school and a Munich municipal development adviser has forecast that they will form a large semi-literate group in years to come, a late-industrial proletariat.

If the Federal Republic is not to have a racial minority problem of its own, State and society must do far more to turn the foreign worker into a fellow-citizen. He must be given the chance of voting at local elections at least and it should be made easier for him to become naturalised.

It is high time that foreign workers are integrated better into society. We should be warned by the outbreak of xenophobia witnessed recently in Holland. The tensions between locals and foreign workers led to excesses that assumed near pogrom proportions.

Dirk Schubert

(Deutsche Zeitung, 13 October 1972)

Two and a half million foreign workers

Some 2,420,000 foreign workers were employed in the Federal Republic at the end of September 1971, according to a report compiled by the Nuremberg-based Federal Institute of Labour.

Turks and Yugoslavs formed the largest national groups. The report on the "Occupation of Foreign Workers in the Federal Republic of Germany" also pointed out that one in ten workers at the end of September 1971 was a foreigner.

The proportion is considerably higher in industrial areas. In the region covered by Stuttgart's labour exchanges for instance one worker in four was a foreigner and in the Frankfurt area one worker in five.

Most foreign workers are concentrated in the metal and steel industry, manufacturing concerns and construction firms. A total of 1,740,000 work in these and allied trades.

The other foreign workers are employed in commerce, banking and insurance (112,000), the public services (117,000) privately-owned service industries (113,000) and in mining or energy supply (77,000).

Some fifty thousand foreign workers are to be found in the transport sector and a total of 21,000 are employed in agriculture, forestry, market gardening and fisheries.

The Federal Institute of Labour report asks whether any further growth in the number of foreign workers employed in this country might endanger economic development.

The employment of workers from abroad was originally a logical step in view of the special economic conditions prevailing in this country but it could now be reaching the stage where further immigration would be impractical from the point of view of the economy and the labour market. The social and political integration of these workers would then prove difficult.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 October 1972)

Legislation to safeguard hired labour

New legislation governing the employment of hired workers took effect on 12 October. Labour Minister Walter Arendt stated that it would remove many of the grievances expressed by this category of employee.

The public often looks upon the hiring of labour as a modernised slave trade and the new legislation – the first in this field – will protect hired workers from exploitation.

Some semblance of order is now being brought into the system of hired labour. Employment agencies have increased rapidly in number in recent years. The Federal Institute of Labour knows of some 950 agencies in the Federal Republic and estimates the number of hired workers at a quarter of a million.

Complaints are often heard about these agencies as not all are bona fide concerns. The Ministry of Labour states that some of them evade their taxes and social security contributions. In other cases hired workers have not been paid the full rate and foreigners have been employed illegally.

The new law plans to change all this. Agencies hiring out labour will have to gain official permission which will be granted by the Federal Institute of Labour when the concern is reliable and guarantees to cover the social security contributions for its labour force.

Private work in this field is still banned. Agencies operating without official permission are acting illegally and may be fined anything up to thirty thousand Marks.

Agencies already operating when the new legislation took effect can continue their work prior to the Labour Institute decision on their admissibility if they apply for permission by 11 December. The application is to be made at the appropriate Federal Labour Exchange.

Hired workers will receive greater protection. The agency must fulfil the obligations normally incumbent on an employer and continue to pay its labour force even when no work is available. Organising hired labour on a temporary basis is only admissible when it serves the interests of the employee.

If the agency operates without permission, the employer to which labour is leased must assume the employer's obligations otherwise undertaken by the agency.

(Handelsblatt, 12 October 1972)

Continued from page 4

because of the intense competition found there. The fact that committees elected by the staff actively participate in the decision-making procedure is of little influence.

"Nobody can take the right decision when badly informed or not informed at all," Porst states in his programme. All executives are therefore obliged to inform staff about everything they need to know to carry out their duties.

This is another weak point in the plan. It is left to the discretion of the executive what information is important to other members of staff. It all depends what he considers significant.

Members of staff may therefore hae insufficient information but they will still be forced to assume some of the responsibility for decisions they are in no real position to make.

The uncertainty caused when taking decisions despite this lack of information could easily lead to the false policy being adopted by the firm.

Porst has gone new ways with his firm. Only the future will tell whether the system he advocates can serve as a prototype for other concerns.

Werner Neitzel

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 10 October 1972)

■ ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Trade perks up slowly but surely

Frankfurter Allgemeine

The upward trend in the economy continues, but progress is calm and quiet. The Economic Affairs Ministry in Bonn and a number of employers associations cannot at the moment visualise any motive forces to liven up the economy to a greater extent. Economic researchers are unanimous that the present upward trend is happening with production capacities being used to a high degree.

The Chairman of the Committee of Experts Norbert Kloten said at the recent session of "Concerted Action" that the production reserves in hand to cope with booming demand were not great.

Just how slim the reserves are is shown by the state of the jobs market. In September the number of unemployed dropped slightly and now stands at 0.9 per cent. The Federal Labour Institute puts this down to seasonal influences. Also those on short time (ten per cent less working hours, than normal in the firm concerned) dropped in September to just 13,800.

At the same time, however, the number of job vacancies lessened as well. These movements are a drop in the ocean of the overall jobs picture. All in all there is still over-employment in this country. This is clearly confirmed by the steady increase in the number of foreign workers being drafted in. The increase in the twelve months from September 1971 was 111,400 and the total now of 2,350,000 is an absolute record.

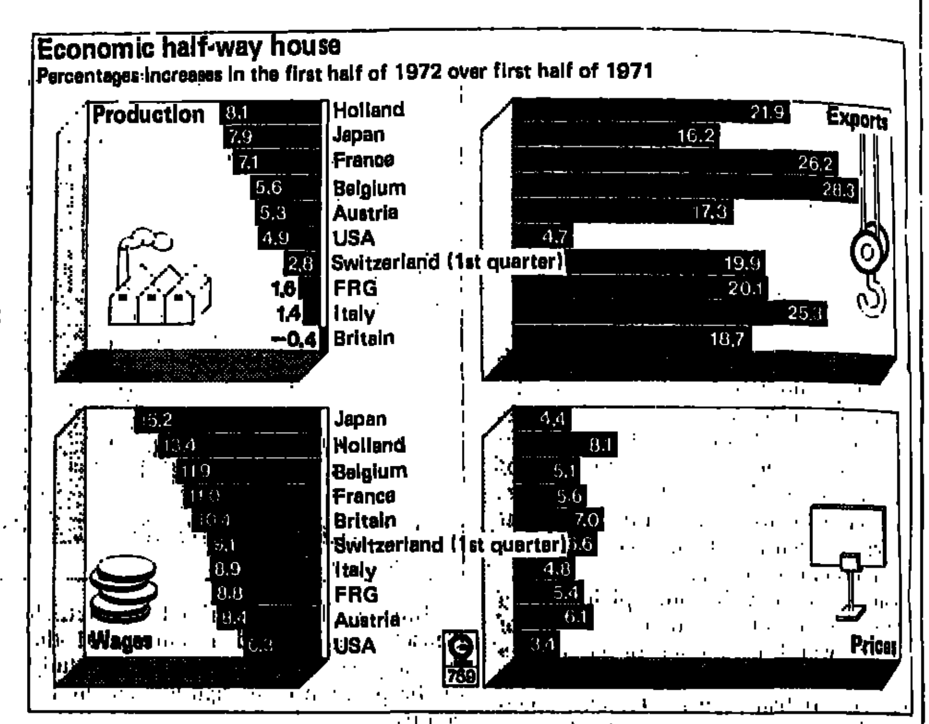
Companies are still complaining that their profits margins are unsatisfactory. They are very worried about the rise in per-item wages. According to the Ministry the gap between wage and salary rises and increased productivity is considerable. Pay in the second quarter of 1972 went up 10.3 per cent compared with the corresponding period of 1971. In the same period productivity increased by only six per cent. Wage bills per item did not in fact increase by as much as eighteen months ago, but there are no signs that the improvement will continue.

Even electronics, whose growth rate this year has been far above the average for industry as a whole, is not happy with the way its profits have gone. The extensive programmes of expansion in public power supply industries which will mean a doubling of the 1969 capacity by 1976 has helped electronics and other branches to fill their order books. About 26 milliard Marks will be invested in the next few years in power supply systems.

Another pillar of the economy is the housing programme. Builders, according to the industry's central association are once again very optimistic about the state of the economy. The only exception is civil engineering.

After many years of despond the chemicals industry reports that higher turnover has brought better yields at last, occasioned less by higher prices than by the rationalisation procedures carried out.

But in heavy machinery the amount of orders in hand has been decreasing, at least judging from figures available up till July. Trends of recent weeks have not yet been published. The motor industry also sees little chance of a major recovery. Production and sales at home and abroad were down again in August. But factory vacations make it difficult to carry out an accurate comparison between one month in one year and in the previous year.



Consumer demand continues high. The increase in production in consumer goods industries is at times twice as high as in the capital investment goods industries. The agreed increase in pensions and the approach of Yuletide will undoubtedly liven up demand in consumer goods industries further.

Companies are still very cautious about making investments for expansion. But there has not yet been any great incentive towards expansion and this partly explains why the economy is at the moment rather in a state of suspense.

With the market in its present state companies are acting quite correctly in concentrating their investments on rationalisation methods. Any boost to the economy would essentially hike prices even more.

The same effect would be brought about by excessive wage demands. Bundesbank President Karl Klasen said at the last meeting of Concerted Action that stability could never be restored without moderation at wage-scale negotiations. Bundesbank measures to make capital more difficult to come by must be taken as a sign by companies that it will not be so easy to hike prices in future.

The state of economics in countries that are our most important trade partners is also good. In France, our most important trading partner, there is a consumer boom the like of which has never been seen. Observers call it an "electoral boom". In the Netherlands excessive demand and inflation are still not under control. In America productivity is on the increase, but so are prices.

Belgium seems to be on the point of economic recovery but entrepreneurs have not yet laid aside their doubts about making investments. The Italian economy on the other hand has been stricken with much industrial dispute and seems to be having a tough time getting on an upward path again.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 October 1972)

Stabilisation is the keynote at home and abroad

At the centre of the CDU programme for the election campaign there is the promise to regain stability. At the centre of the Concerted Action talks held in Bonn recently by Helmut Schmidt there was the debate on a policy for stabilisation. At the heart of the voter's interests, public opinions show, there is also concern over the rapid decline in the value of money.

In fact there are few political or economic debates at the moment that do not centre round the subject of stability. This is likely to remain the case throughout the election battle. The voter would be well advised to beware of simplistic catch-phrases and promises.

Intensification of the stabilisation question is by no means a matter exclusive to the Federal Republic, since inflation does not bother itself about national borders. In Britain at the moment the Heath government is battling to achieve an anti-inflation agreement between the unions on the one hand and the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) on the other. In France too the Opposition has found plenty of ammunition against the government, attacking it for not acting decisively enough against price rises.

Will the outcome, however long the road may be and however painful, be a kind of European awareness of the need for stability? Will we slowly come to realise that continued depreciation in the value of money not only disrupts the economy, but the free social system as a whole? This recognition would certainly be an initial step in the right direction.

With all this talk about stabilisation and an election drawing nigh, there is a temptation to oversimplify matters, to propose panaceas and to look for the responsibility on someone else's shoulders. For several months now governments, parties and other social groups have been engaged on the fruitless and energy-sapping job of passing the buck.

The Federal states have said that if inflation is to be combatted a lead must be given by Bonn's budgeteers. Bonn, on the other hand, thinks the states could do something off their own bat to help regain stability. Unions feel that one of the roots of this evil lies in the lack of competition which means that companies have plenty of latitude when fixing prices. Entrepreneurs pin much of the blame on excessive wage claims.

The Opposition accuses the government of letting things slide and trying to put the burden it should itself be bearing on to the shoulders of the Bundesbank and our partners in Europe. The government denies this and blames the CDU for making too many inflationary moves in the previous Bundestag.

All of these statements contain a grain of truth, but only a grain. Anyone who says rather pathetically that if you do this or that you can get rid of inflation in a trice misunderstands one of the basic difficulties involved in political activity.

With a deep insight into the dilemma which faced him in his period of office former Bonn Economics/Finance Minister Karl Schiller said recently: "In political circles we can see clearly that the stabilisation and growth laws make very high demands of the government in terms of wisdom, objectivity and determination. We must recognise that in the actual decision-making process many hindrances have cropped up." This applies to any government no matter what parties it comprises.

In an election campaign snappy slogans are needed and these of necessity tend to exaggerate. But the voter is quite free to study them critically. Helmut Schmidt has almost created a new proverb with his famous statement that five-per-cent price rises are preferable to five-per-cent unemployment, but he probably has done nothing to add to people's understanding of the problem of inflation with this catchphrase.

Of course it would be doing the man an injustice to suggest that he considers these alternatives the last word in the study of national economics. Schmidt's "five-per-cent" statement is of a political nature and it is aimed at those who the government hope will support them at the election. No less one-sided and politically motivated are the statements by the Opposition to the effect that public spending must be slashed before we can get our feet back on the ground.

It is not so easy. Beyond the election campaign polemics, however, the idea does seem to have sunk in that the restoration of stability demands a broadly based strategy depending on the interaction of various forces.

Increased competitiveness which the unions are demanding is part and parcel of it, as is wages discipline, which industrialists are clamouring for; an exemplary attitude by the State during the forthcoming wage-scale negotiations in the nationalised industries is as important as providing the Bundesbank with a more effective armoury. And finally there is the need for a modicum of European solidarity.

It cannot be said that Bonn or its partners have gone very far along this road. But a few starters can be noted. For instance at the recent meeting of Concerted Action there was readiness to embark on top-level talks between the trades union congress and the employers associations. The subject would be stability. And the fact that the European heads of government who will be holding their summit in late October intend to devote much of the time to the fight on inflation is something new in the history of the EEC.

Perhaps the voter would like to hear more news and more pleasant news about the prospects for stabilisation. But no party can with a clear conscience promise the electorate that it will if elected restore stability at a stroke.

Heinz Murmann

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 9 October 1972)

■ COMMON MARKET

EEC must adjust to the loss of Norway

In referendums the Danes gave their approval to joining the EEC while the Norwegians rejected the idea. In both countries industry is now having to adjust to the changes wrought by the people's vote.

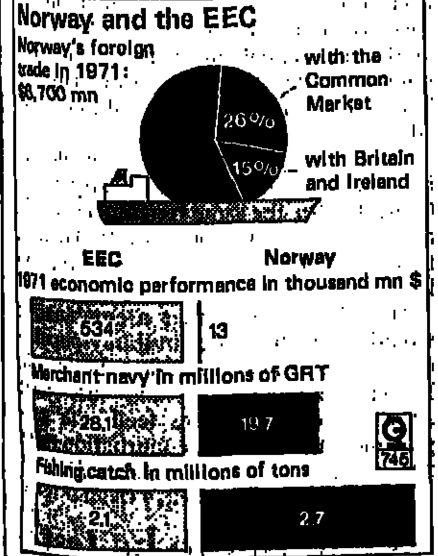
Denmark's Yes to the Common Market was accompanied by a cut in Bank Rate in Copenhagen from eight to seven per cent, among other things. Now the doubt about the future of the country with regard to Europe is a thing of the past and so, officials state, there is no need to continue the policy of high interest rates.

In Norway after the No there was a slump on the stock market and some bonds lost as much as twenty per cent, but in Copenhagen the stock exchange stabilised after the referendum.

The reason behind the landslide vote in favour of joining the EEC is probably that the Danes realise how difficult it would be to alter their present trade orientation towards the Federal Republic and Great Britain. The situation is different in Norway, but after the negative outcome of the referendum the prospects for the Norwegian economy seem to have worsened.

Statements made by Norwegian company managers after the people's verdict in September had gone against the government of Trygve Bratteli tend to bolster up this idea. Some firms are planning to switch their production at least partially to countries of the Common Market so as to avoid the expected trade barriers.

Following the Yes in Denmark there are plans to set up new factories at home but also in the Federal Republic and the Netherlands. Several Norwegian workers seem in danger of losing their jobs.



"For Norwegian industry there is no alternative to the Western European market," said the director of the Norwegian exporters association Gunnar Rogstad. Almost all sectors of Norwegian industry would be hit by the No decision, shipping in particular.

This argument, however, has horrified the greater part of the Norwegian electorate. It is a sparsely populated country and there was the fear of foreign interference, takeovers of local industry by international consortiums and above all by "capitalists".

The bulk of the vote against joining did not come from the 240,000 farmers and fishermen who now feel that their existence is threatened, but large sections of the workers. *Pravda* was probably correct in its estimation of the vote against — largely engineered by Norwegian left-wing groups with specific aims in mind — when it said: "Those in favour of Norway's joining the Common Market are largely representatives of major industries, right-wing politicians and their organisations."

However imperfect this "Europe of major industry" may be — Brussels has been trying for years to introduce a new company law that would encourage sensible international mergers — it is clear that Norway's leap to the EEC bank fell short because of a sad lack of information.

A typical example was the answer given by one Norwegian to the question of whether he knew which countries were in the EEC. He said: "Well yes, Norway, Sweden, Austria and Germany." Asked what he thought of the Common Market he said: "I'm against it."

Opponents of entry painted a bold picture of a highly centralised Europe that would rob Norway of all the social benefits it had built up for itself. Even if the fear of Almighty Brussels had been founded the Norwegians would have benefitted from it.

About a half of Norwegian exports go to the countries that will be making up the Community of Nine. Even if Oslo succeeds in negotiations on free trade arrangements between the EEC and the vestiges of Efta its position will be less favourable than that of, say, Sweden.

The President of the Norwegian Shippers Association Dag Klaveness considers that Norway's No to the EEC means the loss of a great opportunity to overcome flag discrimination on an international level. Oslo had been on the EEC sub-committee for investigation of flag discrimination since the entry negotiations were completed. He now fears that the hard line Norway helped to build up at these meetings against Brazil in particular could soften.

No one is at present able to give much idea what the total losses to the Norwegian economy will be in the next few years.

Norway's path to the EEC was uncertain from the start. Norway first applied in 1962 on the condition that Britain and Denmark should also be accepted into the Community. At that time opinions in industry and among the general public were divided. It was clear from the start that there would be a referendum before entry could be completed.

At the same time the Storting decided in 1962 on a constitutional amendment making entry possible, by allowing sovereign rights on certain strictly limited subjects to be transferred to international negotiating tables if three quarters of the members of parliament gave their approval.

When the entry discussions were resumed seven years later in 1970 the Norwegian government went into them half-heartedly. Only when Trygve Bratteli took over was the EEC course steered with greater enthusiasm. But as the vote on 24 and 25 September showed the government did not succeed in convincing the people of the necessity of entry. Bratteli had hoped that the Danes would hold their referendum first, and only their Yes could have possibly swung the nation round.

For the EEC the Norwegian decision was very upsetting although economic disadvantages will not result from their decision to stay out. Even a rejection of the EEC by the Danes as well would not have disturbed the economic balance that has been built up around Britain and Eire's entry. The Norwegian and Danish markets both have a relatively slight significance for the Common Market.

For many reasons, however, being jilted by the Norwegians was a hard blow for the EEC. At first it was thought the Danes might follow in the wake of their neighbours one week after, but the landslide in favour of Danish entry proved these fears unfounded. Danish voters were obviously well aware that non-entry would be an economic disaster for them. Denmark's agriculture has to export two-thirds of what it produces. It now has free access to EEC markets and keeps its place in British shops.

If the answer had been *Nej* trade barriers to the EEC would have remained closed and the vital British market would have been lost.

Denmark and the EEC

Denmark | EEC

1971 per capita economic performance in $: 3719 | 3096

1971 standard of living (private per capita consumption) in $: 2030 | 1690

1971 foreign trade: $8,200 mn with

Ireland 0.2 %, Norway 5.5 %, 16.0 %, 27.7 %, Britain, EEC

755

The other reasons for regret from EEC capitals and Brussels in particular that Norway decided to stay out are of a political nature. Firstly it is hoped to prevent a Finlandisation of Norway and secondly the EEC in its present form is correctly balanced. The entry of Britain and the Scandinavian countries would, it was hoped, counterbalance the strong regional interests of the Italians, and the dogma of the French and give the Community incentives it did not have in the past.

It was from Norway that Brussels hoped the incentive for greater democratisation of the EEC apparatus would come. Brussels certainly did not view the Norwegian battle for Yes and No as a parade example of applied democracy, but rather as proof of the superiority of polemics over rationality.

Nevertheless responsible people in the EEC did take on slight guilt complexes about the lack of attractiveness of the Common Market following the "black day in Oslo".

Sicco Mansholt, the President of the Brussels European authority said: "This defeat for Europe is food for thought for all of us, especially on the eve of a Summit Conference."

Klaus Schumann

(Deutsche Zeitung, 6 October 1972)

Mediterranean policy needs sorting out

Europe's foreign ministers have allowed themselves another postponement. They will now discuss the Community's Mediterranean policy in November after consultations with the applicant countries and the Summit Conference.

Not much more time can be wasted. Extension of the Community on 1 January 1973 will force the new members to take on the protective measures used by the Six to ward off detrimental outside influences on their economies. Some Mediterranean countries, in particular Spain and Israel, whose citrus fruits come to the British market almost duty free at the moment will be faced with major problems without economic compensation. This occasioned the EEC foreign ministers some months ago to get together and talk on a long overdue overall policy for Mediterranean countries.

The Brussels Commission has suggested sorting out the tangle of agreements at present in force, ranging from simple trade treaties to association with the aim of eventual entry. Their strategy has received the general approval of the Six.

The Community will offer European Mediterranean countries full membership as long as they have comparable political — i.e. democratic — structures and are economically suitably developed. Other countries bordering on the Med. will enjoy duty-free trade with the Nine. Exceptions to this are to a certain extent agricultural produce on which the Common Market has protected itself against outside influences and on which count it is very loath to lower its guard. The whole concept is complemented by technical and financial cooperation.

The ministers did not achieve much more than to take note of the Commission's ideas and when the short time available for preparation was taken into consideration little more could be expected. So we cannot be sure at present whether the EEC will succeed in overcoming the differences of opinion that are bound to be expressed and in justifying the concept in the eyes of our world trade partners.

This contention does not merely concern an adjustment of Mediterranean countries' exports to Italian and French agricultural requirements. The Mediterranean policy also touches on the sore point of the trade policy controversy between Europe and America. For years the Americans have been critical of the EEC's Med. policies, which in most cases involve preferential duties and thereby seriously disrupt Washington's trading interests, according to the Americans. And for years there have been arguments about whether these trade agreements are compatible with Gatt rules.

The Med. policy stretches to the bone of contention of regional blocs forming, which seems a likelihood when the Community is expanded, and whether this should replace the present worldwide concept of special preferences and the similar treatment of all partners. This is a controversial point among EEC countries themselves.

The argument is probably going to be heated up by the EEC's policy of cooperating with Med. and Middle East countries in order to be sure of a supply of oil as the world competition for dwindling power sources hots up, and thus fuel and power policy is likely to be introduced into the Mediterranean concept.

And so America, whose Sixth Fleet is the backbone of Nato's southern flank defences in the Mediterranean, sees itself once again confronted by the interests of the EEC.

The Common Market will do its utmost when formulating its Mediterranean policy to avoid straining even further the tense relationship with its American allies.

Eberhard Wisdorff

(Die Welt, 11 October 1972)

■ TECHNOLOGY

25 years of civil aviation in this country

In the course of 1947 one man carried out a confidential mission that was a little on the dangerous side. Exercising continual caution in order to ensure that he was not arrested by British and American guard patrols he toured what was left of this country's commercial airports, in those days used as military fields by the Allies.

This incognito figure was none other than the former head of air transport control at the Reich Aviation Ministry, Dr Friedrich Wilhelm Petzel. He spent the spring and summer of 1947 touring the country in preparation for the resumption of civil aviation.

Twenty-five years ago, in October 1947, the Association of German Commercial Airports was established in Stuttgart and anniversary celebrations were recently held there.

The conclusions Petzel reached were anything but encouraging. Only two out of 79 commercial airports that had been in operation in 1939 (though the 79 included miniature airstrips such as Wernigerode and Karlsruhe) were still in a fit state for regular use by commercial airlines for freight and passenger transport. They were Rhine-Main airport, Frankfurt, and Tempelhof airport, Berlin.

In Frankfurt, which registered more than ten and a half million passengers in 1971, the only civilian operator licenced for passenger traffic was American Overseas Airways, which ran a regular service from New-York to Frankfurt and on to Berlin. In 1947 there were 2,142 paying passengers recorded on this route.

The major airports were by no means unusable because damage to the facilities was too great. Indeed, amid the destruction that was the hallmark of immediate post-war Germany the airports were the first to be rebuilt.

In Hamburg, Cologne and elsewhere Petzel was able to see for himself how the Allies, using German civilian labour, built miles of concrete runway for the first time ever amid the green grass of German airports.

Amid the ruins Petzel, an airport specialist who in 1951 was to be appointed director of the newly-built airport at Langenhagen, Hanover, saw a forecast he himself had made in 1937 after a visit to the United States come true.

"In future runway airports will be the rule in this country too," he had reported to State Secretary Erwin, later Field-Marshal, Milch.

But Milch and the management of the pre-war Lufthansa would hear nothing of newfangled runways, Up till and during the war years a special kind of grass was cultivated specially for airports and officials of Lufthansa enthused about how soft grass landings were.

The first four concrete runways built at a German airport were in Essen, where runways were put through their paces with the catchment area of the Ruhr armaments industry in mind.

Even in the final year of the war the then Reich airports association was able to report that "substantial though the destruction may be, services have been maintained as usual." Lufthansa domestic services linked eight remaining airfields.

Following the occupation of Germany by the Allies the Control Council prohibited Germans from engaging in aviation activity of any kind. They were not allowed free access to the occupied airports either.

This strictly enforced ban and the general difficulties put a damper on the erstwhile enthusiasm of local authorities that only a few years beforehand had invested substantial amounts of money and brought a maximum of political pressure to bear in order to extend their air links and boost the prestige of the local airport.

Problems of an entirely different kind were more acute than air travel, which in any case looked as though it were going to be the last thing Germans were likely to get up to for some time.

Abroad, and not only in Britain, France and America, airlines were eager to gain a foothold in the gigantic vacuum that the Western zones of defeated Germany now represented.

In addition to the British and Americans the Dutch and the Scandinavians applied to the Allied civil aviation authorities, the Civil Aviation Division in Wiesbaden and the Civil Aviation Branch in Hamburg, for permission to serve German airports. They wanted to be in business in time for the expected recovery of the German economy.

It was clear from developments in the United States that civil aviation was going to assume an increasingly important role as a mode of transport. On this point all observers of the aviation scene were agreed, and they included a small group of German specialists.

In 1936 1.1 million air passengers were registered in the United States, as against 260,000 in this country – and 1936 was the best pre-war year in German civil aviation.

At the end of the war the figures for the United States shot up to 5.1 million passengers in 1945 and thirteen million a year later. Even France, which had suffered from the ravages of war, succeeded in trebling its passenger volume to 300,000 immediately after the war.

In order at least to be prepared for when this tempestuous development put in an appearance in Western Germany Petzel was sent to tour the country's chief burgomasters and occupied airports.

He was also the first German to present his credentials to Col. Thomas D. Johnson, head of the US Civil Aviation Division in Wiesbaden. Naming as references a lengthy list of American air transport specialists with whom he was personally acquainted, Petzel sounded out the prospects of Germans engaging in civil aviation activity of their own.

Col. Johnson proved obliging. Instead of arresting Dr Petzel for offences against Control Council provisions he invited him out to lunch. Had it not been for Col. Johnson's cooperation the airports association could never have been set up in Stuttgart in 1947.

Not until a year later, though, were German nationals officially entitled to buy airline tickets and fly – from Frankfurt to Berlin. One by one Hamburg, Munich and Stuttgart were also licenced for civil aviation.

Düsseldorf and Bremen had to wait until 1949, Cologne, Nuremberg and Hanover still longer. Not until 1949 were the 1936 passenger figures exceeded – on a total of seven authorised German airports. Passenger volume was in excess of a quarter of million.

In the first six months of 1972 the eleven commercial airports in the Federal Republic were used by 17.9 million passengers, an increase of nine per cent on last year, in the course of which a total of 35,7 million people flew to and from airports in this country.

Forecasts up to and including 1980 provide for a passenger volume by the end of the decade of between eighty and 100 million.

Between now and 1980 three major airport projects will reach completion – the new airports in Hamburg, Munich and Berlin. In Hamburg and Munich the two existing airports, Fuhlsbüttel and Riem, need to be replaced by larger facilities well outside town. In Berlin the larger Tegel airport is gradually to take over the workload at present handled by Tempelhof.

The foresight of a handful of enthusiasts twenty-five years ago, men who were not put off by the gloomy immediate prospects, has proved well worth while, both for aviation in this country as a whole and for progress towards economic prosperity.

In the international air transport network each of the eleven domestic airports occupies a firm place.

Dieter Tasch

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 12 October 1972)

Satellite TV feasibility study gets under way

By the eighties it will be less expensive to beam radio and TV transmissions at this country straight from a communications satellite than from ground transmitters and relay stations. There will also be a greater range of programmes and more complete coverage of the country's surface area.

This forecast was made by Herr Schendel of the Ministry of Education and Science, a specialist in satellite applications, at a recent Berlin conference of the Federal Republic Aerospace Research Association.

Two consortia have compiled studies on the Ministry's behalf and it is now up to the Federal government to decide whether or not to proceed with the projects.

By 1975 twenty million viewers will be able to receive all three channels but further programmes are out of the question because no more frequencies are available.

Satellite TV on VHF and UHF frequencies is a non-starter because the solar energy that can be generated will not provide sufficient power to transmit directly from the space vehicle.

Progress in engineering at the twelve- to fourteen-gigahertz range would make three to five additional channels feasible, though. The receiver would need to be equipped with a parabolic aerial and an adapter costing somewhere in the region of 1,500 Marks.

Development work on the satellite, which will weigh between 800 and 1,000 kilogrammes, would cost between 600 and 800 million Marks, plus roughly 130 million for the satellite itself.

Were work to start straight away the satellite could be operational at the beginning of the eighties. Annual running costs are estimated at about a further 130 million Marks.

Ground transmitters and booster stations for a further five channels in the gigahertz range would cost 6,500 million Marks in capital investment and 700 million Marks a year to run. Thirteen hundred ground stations would be needed.

What is more, the network would not be complete for another twenty years. Cable TV for the same frequencies would cost as much as 40,000 to 60,000 million Marks and also take some twenty years to lay.

The planners feel that a combination would be the best idea. In thinly-populated areas satellites would do a better job. Larger communities could use joint aerials and, moreover, feed the programme material into conurbation cable networks.

Klaus Müller

(Die Welt, 9 October 1972)

VFW 164 to be test flown in Holland

The Bremen-built VFW 614, this country's first jet airliner, is to continue preliminary flight trials in Holland after a prototype crashed some time ago.

Test pilot Leif Nielsen, who parachuted out of the prototype that crashed, has flown the G 2 prototype to the Amsterdam works of the Federal Republic-Dutch firm.

Following clarification in Bremen of the flutter that led to the crash the following changes were made to the G 2 and G 3 prototype models: –

- Modifications to the tail have reinforced the rear of the aircraft;
- The hand pressure needed to operate the steering controls has been scaled down by means of a number of alterations.

Flight trials are now to be resumed according to full schedule and the VFW 614's range is to be increased to 800 miles. (Welt am Sonntag, 17 September 1972)

European weather bureau to be set up in Wiesbaden

The largest computer in Europe will be the Continent's most reliable guide to the weather. Operating from Wiesbaden, the capital of Hesse state, it will forecast Friday's weather on Monday for the whole of Western, Central and Southern Europe.

Weather forecasts four days in advance are currently something no national meteorological service can make. The Federal Republic met office in Offenbach, for instance, is capable at best of forecasting today whether or not it will be sunny the day after tomorrow.

Wiesbaden, then, is shortly to house Europe's first and only medium-range weather-forecasting centre. It will be sponsored by an organisation that so far has been more concerned with economics than meteorology, the Common Market.

The EEC and nine other European countries are prepared in principle to plough considerable amounts of money into the new facilities, which will employ a permanent staff of 120 specialists from more than ten European countries.

The only comparable centres so far in existence are in the United States and in Moscow. In Europe short-range forecasts only have so far been possible, national meteorological services not being able to afford the equipment necessary, and co-ordination between national services being insufficient.

Wiesbaden has already made generous preparations for the arrival of the meteorologists and submitted a most satisfying offer to the EEC meteorological commission. The commission has been offered the use of a most convenient site, the grounds of a former castle.

The proposed staff of 120 meteorologists are also at the ready. The only snag in the way of Wiesbaden's becoming the European weather centre is a further application submitted by Copenhagen.

According to Professor Christiansen of the Federal Republic met office in Offenbach neither the EEC nor the other countries involved expect Copenhagen to fill the bill, though.

The Danish capital is said to be too far north geographically and for this reason if for no other unable to compare with Wiesbaden, which lies plum in the heart of Central Europe and is ideally situated for neutral forecasting.

Wilfried Dietze

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 29 September 1972)

■ STAGE

Büchner's Death inaugurates new Darmstadt theatre

Geometric structures, pillars, spheres and cubes by sculptor Arnaldo Pomodoro decorate the forecourt and interior of Darmstadt's new Hessisches Staatstheater. Their consolidated form is marked by reliefs or fissures and the effect is particularly striking where the cubes are concerned.

In Pomodoro's work the blind force of moderate-looking natural bodies is converted into alarmingly dynamic structures. These sculptures even impress theatre-goers who do not know what to make of modern art.

And the new Staatstheater itself? From the outside it looks like the invention of a child playing with its toy bricks and with 956 seats in the larger of its two houses and 482 in the smaller it appears far too large for a small town like Darmstadt.

But once Darmstadt manages to surpass the mediocre theatre in Frankfurt and Mannheim's tired Nationaltheater, the theatre could become attractive enough to fill all its seats.

The technology employed in constructing the new theatre is impressive. Everything is found under the one roof. Apart from administration and store-rooms, there is even parking-space in the cellar.

The various components all have double-walls and the acoustics deserve the greatest of praise, which is more than can be said of normal theatre architecture.

Wall drapes serve surface resonance, ceilings are transparent and acoustically neutral while the reinforced plaster surfaces above them perform the acoustic function of relecting sound.

As far as stage-technology is concerned, Darmstadt must have surpassed almost everything that theatres in this country have provided in the past. Towns building their theatres later than the rest are able to use other towns' experiences and avoid their mistakes. It is the theatre-goers that profit.

The theatre commissioned Gaston Salvatore to write his *Büchners Tod* (Büchner's Death) for the opening. Salvatore, a Chilean friend of Rudi Dutschke and Hans Magnus Enzensberger, got the idea for his play from the disappearance of two of Büchner's plays, one of which was about the Renaissance figure of Pietro Aretino.

To avoid a flat, superficial realism, the play takes place on two levels — the depressing surroundings in which Büchner dies in Zürich and the even more depressing surroundings of Büchner's imprisoned friends.

In one scene Salvatore tries to make Aretino into much the same type of man as Büchner was. Büchner's friends appear in three different roles, which is rather confusing at first.

The emigrant Schulz for instance becomes the prisoner Weidig and finally Savonarola. Dr Schönlein, Büchner's physician, returns as Georgi, the forerunner of the typical Gestapo man, before playing a Renaissance figure in the final scene.

The self-torment in Büchner's idealism is not overdone. The coolness of his attendants guards against this danger. Salvatore reveals the social context, the wide gap between the bourgeois rebel and the proletariat. Büchner has a single room and the whole medical world at his disposal as he dies but the poor are condemned to live in cramped conditions.

Salvatore manages to reveal the historical context and underlines it in the dialogues. The dialectics of revolution appear in Büchner's febrile ramblings.

The farewell scene between Büchner and his bride provides impressive proof of Salvatore's talent. Emotions are not expressed in words but in paradoxical febrile ramblings and in tears.

But Salvatore does not manage to establish the link to Büchner's Aretino. The parallels remain superficial and contrived although the flashback to the fifteenth century is deliberately kept short to avoid straining the play's general structure.

The play gains its cohesion through its language, a mixture of Büchner's own style and everyday colloquial speech.

Gerhard Garbers took the title role and the other important parts were played by Hans Christian Rudolph, Elisabeth Reith, Stephan Orlac, Elke Arndt, Anfried Krämer, Karlheinz Vietsch, Franz Josef Nagler, Raidar Müller-Elmau and the producer himself who had to jump into the breach at the last minute.

If this play achieves anything, it should be that the city of Darmstadt no longer uses Büchner's name for its literary awards. Only writers persecuted for "treasonable actions" can measure up to him.

But today's prominent writers are all part of the establishment. They may accumulate prize after prize but they cannot claim to do this in Georg Büchner's name. Gaston Salvatore must be thanked for revealing this to be the hypocrisy it is!

Horst Hartmann

(Vorwärts, 12 October 1972)



A scene from the Darmstadt production of Gaston Salvatore's *Büchner's Death* (Photo: Pit Ludwig)

Successful Berlin Festival

Peter Brook's enchanting production of *Midsummer Night's Dream* with the Royal Shakespeare Company formed the highlight of the theatrical side of this year's month-long Berlin Festival which ended with the premiere in the Schiller Theater of an adaptation of Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*.

Six drama ensembles invited to this, the last Berlin Festival organised by Walther Schmieding demonstrated the variety of opportunities modern international theatre has to offer.

The Festival began prematurely in May with the Stockholm ensemble's performance of Ibsen's *Wild Duck* under the psychologically revealing direction of Ingmar Bergman.

It ended with Büchner's *Dantons Tod* (Danton's Death). The Michael Meschke production acted by an ensemble of actors from Stockholm was presented as an experiment to show audiences the upheavals of the French revolution.

One fascinating production was the Nuria Esperto Ensemble's performance of Garcia Lorca's *Yerma* as a wild ritual on a trampoline. Our ideas about the Spanish playwright had to undergo thorough revision as a result.

Eugene Ionesco was not particularly successful as director at the small *Tribüne* theatre but he was amusing as the writer of *Macbett* because of his pessimistic view of the evil of all rulers who indulge in murder until they themselves are murdered by their successors. This latest play of his was presented by the Rive gauche theatre of Paris as a bloody farce.

The Grand Magic Circus of Paris brought to Berlin the pure entertainment of a theatre that has re-converted itself into a circus. Its two programmes and six packed houses turned audiences into open-eyed children agape at the astonishing tricks of its skilled performers.

One of the most attractive guest appearances during the Berlin Festival was that of André Tahon with his *marottes*. Their surrealistic grace enchanted audiences.

One of the most frightening guest appearances was that of the Terayama theatre of Japan that performed a parable of violence and exercised terror against the audience. That of course was the end of that play.

The NHK orchestra of Tokyo demonstrated its technical perfection at two concerts held during the Berlin Festival. The London Philharmonic Orchestra engaged Korean violinist Kyung Wha-chung for its second programme.

She had been one of the surprises of the 1971 Berlin Festival when she gave a brilliant performance of Stravinsky and she again confirmed her talent this year with an unsentimental and fiery interpretation of Mendelssohn's violin concerto.

The Festival programme also brought established musicians such as American violinist Nathan Milstein or the young Italian pianist Maurizio Pollini to Berlin and, as in the past, acquainted the public with new works.

A twin concerto for flute, oboe and orchestra by Ligeti, specially commissioned for the Festival, was given its premiere by the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra and found great acclaim.

The Berlin Philharmonic also appeared under Karl Böhm and Herbert von Karajan. An international youth orchestra competition organised by the Herbert von Karajan Foundation was also invigorating.

Another remarkable performance was that of Mendelssohn's St Paul's Oratorio by the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra conducted by Lorin Maazel. The performance was recorded by the Sender Freies Berlin, the city's broadcasting company.

The main event of this year's Berlin Festival was the performance of Richard Strauss' *Elektra* in the Deutsche Oper. Egon Seefehlner, the new director general, took a calculated risk by engaging Ernst Schröder as producer, the first time Schröder has ever been appointed to such a post. But the risk seems to have paid off. The production provided tension and coupled with Maazel's control of the orchestra was a great success.

A new era also began for Berlin's theatres during the Festival. Hans Lietzau has now taken over as director-general of the State-owned theatres in the city. The varying success of the first three new productions indicates that theatre is once agains being viewed as a forum of intellectual conflict and a reflection of contemporary issues.

Ingvelde Geleng

(Bremer Nachrichten, 11 October 1972)





■ THE ARTS

Elias Canetti awarded Büchner Prize

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Darmstadt was on 7 October the centre of cultural events in the Federal Republic. At long last the new theatre with its two separate auditoriums was christened and at the 1972 autumn meeting of the Deutsche Akademie für Sprache und Dichtung (Federal Republic Academy for Language and Literature) this year's prizes were awarded.

The Sigmund Freud Prize for scientific prose was awarded to Professor Erik Wolf, a student of law. Professor Wolf in his address underlined the role that language could play in jurisprudence.

Author Horst Krüger (*Das Haus*) received the Johann Heinrich Merck Prize for literary criticism. In a temperamental, ironic, polemical address Krüger described criticism as the "defence of the individual". At the same time he spoke out for the right of writers to be left alone to concentrate on style and expression and not ideology.

The main award, the Georg Büchner Prize, went this year to writer Elias Canetti, born 1905 in Bulgaria, the son of Spanish-Jewish parents, who has lived in Britain since the thirties.

Author Horst Bienek gave the honorary speech. He said that Canetti, "writing against time, had always reported on these times, and writing against the passing of time had expressed his stirring protests against death with a Kierkegaardian voice." He never attempted to desert his time, his duty, his passion "either in the times when he drove himself away from writing nor in times when his language drove him out."

Time and again Canetti has taken up "the Promethean struggle against death". In 1945 amidst the destruction and disruption he resignedly surrendered himself to the all-powerfulness of Death. "Now it is truly God," Canetti wrote at the time.

But a decade later the author of *Blending* revolted once again against this stroke of genius of a 25 year-old with a striking statement: "It is as if every single death, no matter whom it strikes, were a crime that we should do all in our power to prevent!"

Is Canetti's recent confession of the immortality of Tolstoy's work the last decisive twist in his revolt against extinction? Is immortality only to be achieved by creative work? Is this "the only really effective rebellion against death?"

If Elias Canetti had continued his novel *Die Blendung* (he planned seven volumes) his work would have become a "universal history of infamy". Bienek has called it "the grotesquely exaggerated parable of the power of the petty-bourgeois and the impotence of the intellectual".

Instead of that "irritated by the perversions of power and the mass movements" of the early thirties Canetti broke off his major work to devote himself for many years to the analysis of the analysis of "masses and power".

Why is this work not so hotly discussed in the Federal Republic as in Britain and France? Bienek says: "German critics have condemned Canetti for not quoting Marx and Engels in the book. Enough said."

After completing *Masse und Macht* Canetti wrote in his diary: "I have succeeded in taking this century by the throat."



Karl Krolow, president of the Academy for Language and Literature and Büchner prize-winner Elias Canetti (right). (Photo: dpa)

He also wrote dramas — including the tragi-comedy *Die Hochzeit*, performed in Cologne — essays and aphorisms, but when asked why he never completed his great novel he has another answer. After receiving the Georg Büchner Prize from the President of the Academy Karl Krolow he gave a speech on Büchner, and the normally taciturn poet entered into a deep analysis of *Woyzeck* in which he let slip more confessions and more biographical detail than he is normally prepared to do.

With an excess of modesty he said that his own relationship to Büchner was tenuous and consisted only of the fact that he would not even have begun *Die Blendung* if he had not been aware of Büchner's work which had been brought to his attention by his late wife.

No other writer had changed his life so much. Going into the "double life" of the writer Canetti spoke of Büchner's *Angst* and of the actual theme of *Dantons Tod*. Canetti considers this lies in the question: Can one save oneself? Büchner's Danton says, "They won't dare to!" Thus Danton runs into the arms of his fate.

Canetti said: "Büchner creates the character who does not want to save himself and escape from his own paralysis." It was the fate of an émigré (Büchner died in Switzerland) that he should want to see himself saved. Was this not perhaps another bridge between the émigré Büchner and the émigré Canetti?

At the end to his speech on Büchner Canetti returned to his favourite topic. He said that he found it inconceivable that Georg Büchner should be dead, since his death at an early age had no point. Thus Georg Büchner was a prime example of "the unfulfilled man".

Wilhelm Unger

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 9 October 1972)

Five senses highlighted at Berlin exhibition

The second major exhibition at this year's Berlin Festival may be situated in the Akademie der Künste, but it has nothing whatsoever in common with the usual run of art exhibitions. Its title is *Welt aus Sprache*, but it would be wrong to believe that it was concerned with linguistics and literature either.

Sprache in this case signifies anything and everything which helps Man to communicate with the world around him. The visitor is reminded that he has five senses in several simple yet refined ways.

Pentagon der Sinne (. . . of the senses) is the centrepiece of the exhibition. One's ears can be used by tuning in to one of several radio plays which can be heard over earphones — the longest lasting eighty minutes. There is also a morse sender that can be operated by visitors. Alternatively visitors are invited to speak into a microphone and watch the green blob on an oscillograph trace out their voice.

And the eyes have it too: there are film sequences, collages, and Chinese signwriting, which is more like graphic art then writing.

Having heard and seen what is to be heard and seen one passes to the smelling department for further delights. Here there are several glass showcases with plastic tubes sticking out. The visitor is invited to sniff at these. A note-book is attached to each and there the visitor can record his impressions of what he has smelt.

In one of the showcases there is an old cushion from a sofa. Someone has described this as smelling like a haystack. Someone also thought he sensed a "smell of brothels" emanating from it. One of the showcases had opaque glass. One visitor thought its contents reminiscent of the atmosphere of a hospital, while another described it as "warm whisky". And in the black saucepan? It looks like stale goulash. And a little further on visitors can sniff at forty different spices.

The sense of touch is represented by boxes into which visitors can thrust their arms and fiddle about with the things inside. Hard things, soft things, flabby, hairy things. Guesses at what is in the box vary again — a suspender belt, says one, a corset says another. In one box one visitor thought he could feel a cow's udder while another suggested it was a rubber glove filled with water.

A wall has been erected on which visitors can feel the difference between warm and cold marble and the artificial variety.

There is a wine-tasting stall with the inevitable note-book in which ironic appreciations replace the usual "full-bodied" and "delicate". One wine was described by one visitor as "green meadows with piddle" another was designated "memories of Uwe Johnson". There is no kitchen at which various foodstuffs can be tasted, but it is pointed out that a noodle is a noodle is a noodle may not necessarily be true. In a glass case there are 39 different sorts on display and they are all supposed to taste different.

The exhibition of "body language" is most amusing. Every visitor is photographed as he walks past a special reflective wall. A silhouette is produced of his manner of walking and posture which he can study at leisure and criticise at will. "Heavens! Don't I shuffle," exclaimed one guinea-pig.

A gigantic tableau shows typical sitting positions. There are photos of politicians with appropriate captions underneath: 'Where can I put my hands?' for instance. Under the heading "Greetings" there is the kiss of brotherhood of communist officials. Under the heading of "walking" we see a picture of Herbert Wehner in a morning coat. And Willy Brandt is to be seen in the pose of the prudent statesman under the heading "Speech". But the favourite of the arrangers of this part of the exhibition seems to be newspaper magnate Axel Springer.

Another theme is "Streets and the city", depicted in photos, drawings and montages. These show the crazy mazes of modern cities. Opposite this there is a large impressive photomontage of old gravestones with the title "Triumph of Death".

Just a few steps away from this there is the unasked question whether the living are still living or whether they are petrified in rituals, ceremonies and customs. Short films are projected of pomp and circumstance all around the world: recruits taking the oath of allegiance, the Pope's blessing, African dancing, Fidel Castro making speeches, hands being kissed in greeting, etcetera.

Dummies with a glass of beer in front of them sit staring at television screens showing advertisements. Just beyond there is a labyrinth of walls with photographs, posters, traffic signs and advertising slogans. Then there is a maze of admonitions met in everyday life: Keep off the grass, no entry, keep clear, ladies — gentlemen, beware of . . . and the like. And a collection of graffiti from toilets, undergound stations and prison walls.

At the end of the exhibition tour there is a "room for rest". It is fitted out with dark, soft foam. Above the visitor, who should take his shoes off, there is a turquoise canopy which hangs down quite low in places. This is an escape from the jungle and labyrinth outside, a place for quietness and meditation.

The exhibition was arranged by the literature department at the Academy and took two years to prepare. Walter Höllerer, head of the commission responsible for "Welt aus Sprache" called it, "An attempt to find a way of offering something new and with these new methods to reach a wider public and provoke discussion that is not restricted to an aesthetic elite."

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 3 October 1972)

HEALTH

Foodstuff chemists hold inaugural conference

Detectives do not have an easy job, as television viewers can see almost every day. Tracking down offenders and bringing them to justice is painstaking and laborious. Foodstuff chemists have an even more difficult job but the results of their work are far more effective. Without them it would prove impossible to solve the many problems involving pollution and conservation.

Foodstuff chemists decided to break their many years of silence and draw public attention to themselves by organising their first-ever congress. Held in Brunswick, it was intended to inform the public about past achievements and point out the shortcomings that still exist as a result of poor finances or inter-departmental squabbles.

It is the human being and consumer who stands at the centre of the foodstuff chemist's work in science, industry and administration. The chemist examines and controls everything that comes on to the market.

Together with veterinary scientists and medics — especially toxicologists, pharmacologists and bacteriologists — foodstuff chemists form a triumvirate guaran-



teeing that foodstuffs will not be detrimental to their consumers' health.

Dr Eckert of the Health Ministry told the congress that the legislature was also concerned with these problems. The Federal Republic has the most stringent food laws in the world and they will become even more severe when the food law reform takes effect. All the parties in the Bundestag see the importance of such a move.

One example will suffice to show the difficulties faced by foodstuff chemists — in this case in the control of imports. Over ninety people in Saarbrücken were taken ill after consuming canned peaches from Italy.

The cans had been imported into the country legally but a department store chain refused to accept them after making its first check on quality. The peaches eventually came on to the market and were bought by the welfare food service.

The peaches came from a village canning factory on the slopes of Vesuvius near Naples. It was only when members of Brunswick Technical University's department of foodstuff chemistry started their detective work that they found what was wrong.

After taking a sample of water from the village well, which was also the water supply for the canning factory, they found that one litre of water contained three hundred milligrammes of nitrate.

Accordingly to an internationally valid law the nitrate content of water must not exceed 45 milligrammes a litre. Nitrate attacks the metal of the can and the tinware molecules dissolved penetrate the fruit. Sickness and vomiting is the result — the syndrome may not be serious but it does involve sick leave and personal discomfort.

This was one case that led foodstuff chemists to deman tighter and more effective controls upon imports as a purely preventive measure. This country's Chemists Association — its foodstuff chemistry and forensic branch organised the congress in Brunswick — demands that there should be more teaching and research in this sector at university.

No public money should be wasted on setting up new institutes of environmental conservation, it states. Instead the existing chemical investigation bureaux should be enlarged and given the necessary equipment to deal with these problems.

Just enumerating some of the problems facing this scientific discipline shows its wide range of work. They include for instance packaging, storage, examining foodstuffs for residual DDT (all experts believe DDT to be an indispensable pesticide in areas affected by malaria) and examining cosmetics for substances harmful to health.

Transport, industry, trade and running households all affect our foodstuffs, drinking water and many other things we need by intentionally or unintentionally polluting the atmosphere, fertilising the soil, injecting chemicals or other substances into animals and spraying crops

Continued on page 13

Laser surgery increases

Laser equipment providing an intensive beam of light is being used more and more frequently in eye surgery. Talks and discussions at the Ophthalmic Association Congress in Hamburg confirmed this trend.

Hospitals usually employ lasers in cases where the retina is starting to become detached but it has also been used successfully in cases of diabetic retinopathy, a late symptom of diabetes. Lasers are therefore being used alongside the age-old method of light coagulation involving xenon lamps.

One of the advantages of laser treatment is that it can be used on patients while they are sitting down. It causes little discomfort and has even been used on children without their expressing any pain.

Judgments at the congress varied on the success of laser operations to eliminate glaucoma, a state of abnormally high pressure within the eye that disturbs vision and may cause blindness if not treated.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 28 September 1972)

Liver cirrhosis gains ground

Cirrhosis of the liver — an allment often caused by excessive consumption of alcohol — has moved into third place of the main causes of death in the Federal Republic behind heart disease and cancer, Professor Werner Seide told the 27th Annual Congress of this country's Association for Digestive and Metabolic Diseases in Frankfurt.

Professor Seide, head of the Frankfurt University Centre of Internal Medicine, also stated that one patient in four in the Federal Republic suffers from a digestive or metabolic desease. Stomach, intestinal and liver complaints were the most common.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 10 October 1972)

Three million deaf

Three million people in the Federal Republic suffer from deafness to a greater or lesser degree, Professor Karl Heinz Hahlbrock of Koblenz told the three hundred specialists from both Eastern and Western Europe attending the International Audiological Congress in Budapest.

Most of these three million deaf look upon their handicap as an irrevocable act of fate and few know of the opportunities of a cure that exist.

Professor Hahlbrock, head of the hearing department of the Federal Republic Green Cross, announced that almost sixty thousand persons had undergone a hearing test during the recent Hear Better campaign in this country. The Green Cross plans further hearing tests in future in noisy factories.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 7 October 1972)

Stomach cancer

Stomach cancer, the most common form of cancer in the Federal Republic affecting about twenty per cent of all cancer patients, can only be cured if it is diagnosed early enough.

Speaking at the fourth congress for gastroenterological endoscopy in Frankfurt, the congress secretary, Dr Harald Lindner of Hamburg, called on all men and women between 45 and 50 to have regular X-ray or gastroscopic examinations to check that they have no stomach cancer. This is particular important when they have disorders of the upper part of the stomach area.

Dr Lindner also stated that only 13.3 per cent of stomach cancer cases are diagnosed early enough for there to be a 90 to 95 per cent chance of successful treatment.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 11 October 1972)

Physical medicine congress

Questions of rehabilitation and recovery after serious illness stood at the forefront of the 77th Physical Medicine Association Congress held jointly at Hanover Medical College and Bad Nenndorf.

Almost one hundred scientists discussed the diagnostic and therapeutic methods that should give some information about the physical state and rate of improvement of recuperating patients.

The Congress did not concentrate merely on the opportunities for rehabilitation available to patients after heart attacks. Equal importance was attached to research work into recuperation after illnesses affecting movement, after chronic rheumatism, diseases of the circulation and other complaints, including skin ailments.

An important branch of physical medicine is balneology, which explains why part of the congress was transferred to Bad Nenndorf, the Lower Saxony spa. Balneology is the forerunner of physical medicine and from it developed a discipline that Russian scientists call "spaology". Problems of climatic influence play their part here and the solutions must be found by doctors working in physical medicine.

Professor Drexel of Munich, the Association chairman, told the congress that the problem of recovery and rehabilitation is currently being discussed throughout the world.

The economic and social aspects are being studied and scientists are looking for methods to provide reliable information about the rate of improvement to be found in patients recovering from a bout of sickness.

Rehabilitation in hospitals and spas has undergone a significant change in recent years. A few years ago it was still assumed that patients should be prescribed absolute rest after heart attacks but ideas have changed so much that heart patients are now made to move about in the first week they are admitted to hospital.

The path to recovery can be divided into four stages. Intensive care and absolute immobility is followed by an early phase of rehabilitation. The patient is then made to move about and the final stage is constant care and attention to rule out the possibility of another hearth attack.

The field of physical medicine is wide and its importance has still not been fully recognised. That is why the Association demands the introduction of the title "specialist for physical medicine and rehabilitation". Hanover Medical College's department of physical medicine is at last being opened in Bad Nenndorf next year.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 6 October 1972)

EDUCATION

Youth village scheme to train Stuttgart school dropouts

The Christian Youth Village Organisation in Göppingen claims rather alarmingly that almost thirty per cent of all children do not attain the elementary or special-school-leaving standard.

Questioned on this point, a spokesman at the headquarters of this organisation confirmed that between 20 and 35 per cent of all schoolchildren did not obtain the qualifications necessary to enter a profession with any prospects.

These youths are practically barred from becoming apprentices or trainees and are forced to enter the ranks of unskilled labour for the rest of their life or at least for long periods of their working career.

The Youth Village Organisation bases its claim on information provided by municipal authorities and even makes regional distinctions. In North-Rhine-Westphalia 25 to 28 per cent of schoolchildren do not reach the necessary standard, in the Berlin suburb Tempelhof it is 33 per cent and in several places in Lower Saxony the figure is as high as fifty per cent.

The national average was still about eighteen per cent in 1970 though this figure rose in 1971 to 23 per cent. The trend has increased rapidly during the current year and has already reached almost thirty per cent.

Within the area covered by Stuttgart's labour exchanges some six hundred boys and girls who eventually left school in 1971 did not possess the necessary schoolleaving qualifications.

Confronted with these alarming figures, an official at the Baden-Württemberg Education Ministry in Stuttgart looked horrified and blurted: "That's absolutely impossible."

The statistics he had for Baden-Württemberg were completely different. The Youth Village Organisation must have put the decimal point in the wrong place, he suggested.

At the end of the 1970-1971 school year, he claimed, only 3.5 per cent of the 128,000 fourteen and fifteen-year-olds in Baden-Württemberg's schools (including high schools and secondary schools) had left without attaining the standard demanded — 0.8 per cent of these were from elementary schools and 2.7 per cent from special schools. In actual numbers, this amounted to 990 elementary school children and 3,514 from special schools.

If the percentages quoted by the Youth Village Organisation were correct, there should be as many schoolchildren in Baden-Württemberg's schools (including unskilled labour every year as there are pupils at special schools for the backward — namely 45,000.

Both the Ministry and the Youth Village Organisation stuck to their figures when challenged. But who is right? There was some hope of tracking down the causes of this glaring discrepancy at the tenth and so far smallest career training course organised in Stuttgart by the Youth Village Organisation and opened on 23 September.

In the course of the next twelve months 53 youths who have not attained the necessary school-leaving standard will attend the youth village at Feuerbach, a Stuttgart suburb, and receive such expert care and attention from career specialists, youth leaders, teachers and educationalists that they should become suitable enough for a normal career training course in a factory or other concern.

The 53 youths — girls are not being covered by the scheme at present — will live in a boarding school. During the first six to eight weeks they will work mornings at selected concerns as gardeners, petrol station attendants or automobile mechanics.

Others will attend a painting course held in the boarding school itself. Elsewhere youth villages are arranging courses in other activities such as office technology, photographic laboratory work and textiles. Girls too will be able to attend some of these courses.

After the first six to eight weeks the groups will swap positions. After eight months or so all the young persons on the course will have been able to gain experience in a number of jobs.

The youths are not employed by these concerns as unskilled workers or taken on as trainees. Instead they are given practical training followed in the afternoon by theoretical work.

Teachers and pupils meet after the eight months have elapsed and jointly discuss the progress made. During the last three months each of the youths attends a career training course in a job he chooses as a result of his experience during the youth village course.

The labour exchange career advice service will help here. It also covers all the costs for the year-long course. The Youth Village Organisation, which builds its villages with private and public money, takes care of the accommodation sector and also provides the teachers and programmes.

Hanson von Prince, head of the youth village in Feuerbach, reports that some 1,500 boys and girls are attending the ten courses of this type arranged by the Organisation in the Federal Republic. More than three thousand have been trained in the past six years and between 50 and 98 per cent of them reached the standard demanded.

Other welfare organisations are beginning to take an interest in schemes of this kind which help under-privileged young people gain a better start in life.

Wolfgang-Dietrich Zöllner

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 26 September 1972)

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and vegetables. There are few sectors of ecological conservation in which the foodstuff chemist does not need to intervene.

The Federal Republic leads the world in the date-stamping of perishable foodstuffs (and all foodstuffs are perishable). The tobacco industry has already prompted producers in places as far apart as Bulgaria and Virginia not to use DDT.

A new test has been developed to trace antibiotics in meat and legislation will soon be passed in this sector. Lower Saxony and other Federal states have already stated their willingness to expand the present system of food control boards. A great deal of work has already been done but much has still to be carried out in order to keep pace with progress.

Hans Kallies

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 5 October 1972)

■ OUR WORLD

Crime squad moves in on car thieves

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Breaking into cars is child's play. Statistics prove it. In 1970 there were 78,782 cars stolen in the Federal Republic. In 1971 the figure was even higher. The trend is going to continue because there is no such thing as a thief-proof car.

One expert from the crime squad said: "No one is going to drive a car that looks like a tank." There was an air of resignation in his voice, for it would take an armoured car to keep out the determined rogue.

In the United States thefts of and from cars have reached such a level that nothing would appear to help. Ne'er-do-wells have even started their own breakdown companies and dragged the cars that take their fancy from their parking spots. Now the cops are checking out all tow-away firms to make sure they are bona fide. America has even started special schools where the cops train exclusively to beat the auto thief. The FBI helps out on these courses with its experienced men. But Americans feel that car thefts can only be cut substantially when they are treated as major crime instead of minor felonies.

New ways of beating the car thief are being explored in the Federal Republic. The Crime Squad HQ (BKA) in Wiesbaden is trying to stop the thief via the numberplate. Any Tom, Dick or Harry can at present have any numberplate manufactured. In future only registration offices will be able to produce numberplates and this will be done by a special machine. In Wiesbaden numberplates have been developed that desintegrate as soon as a crook tries to tamper with them. Numberplates that cannot be copied are an essential for beating crooks.

Computers will help in the search for stolen cars. Automatic numberplate reading devices can be put into operation along autobahns and main highways. The numbers can be flashed to the central computer in Wiesbaden which has been fed with a list of cars reported stolen. If the computer picks up a number of a stolen vehicle police can be informed and the car apprehended within minutes.

But the police would be happier if car manufacturers made their vehicles more thief-proof. Police seem to know better than manufacturers the weak points of various models and they pass the information on to the manufacturers. It was a result of this service that the steering wheel lock was introduced in 1960. But police know that there is no way of making a car one hundred per cent safe.

Paul Unterberger, the head of the car theft department of Munich police believes that a lot could be achieved with better locks. He thinks cars should be fitted with household type locks that can be made fast on both sides so that a thief cannot get into a car even if he has forced or smashed a window.

Measures of this sort are always of only temporary benefit. The legal enforcement of locks on steering column or gear change resulted in a striking decline in car thefts in all major cities. But after three years had elapsed the thieves has pushed the figures up to their previous level. Many car drivers do not put these locks into operation when they leave their cars, anyway. It is only on certain types that they lock automatically. Herr Unterberger says that these people are as stupid as someone who goes out all day and leaves his front door open.

But he admits that many of today's car thieves have developed special refinements of their art. It has been known for a thief to unscrew the lock on a car door, note the number and then apply to a key-making centre with forged papers for a copy to be made. Skilful crooks of this kind specialise in Mercedes cars.

In some cases the leader of a gang will follow a car around a city for some time before stealing it with the aid of a skeleton key and then will obtain a copy of the car key using forged papers.

Crooks who steal cars in order to re-sell them rather than to go for a joy-ride or to use them for a "job", make up 24 per cent of the total of car thieves. They are generally equipped with sophisticated tools. They have all the stamps, seals and embossing machines that a genuine registration centre uses to produce a car's documents. In fact their attache case is like a forger's workshop in miniature.

The less sophisticated have other tricks, such as dissecting various numberplates and putting the letters and figures together again in a different order! They also steal the TÜV (road-worthiness organisation) seal and attach it to their cooked up numberplate.

But the cream of the crooks use only genuine documents. They steal them from registration offices and motor manufacturers and thus are able to sell stolen vehicles abroad.

Many crooks buy up written-off vehicles, steal a car of the same make and swap the particulars. Sometimes they file off the number from the motor and carve it into the stolen vehicle, sometimes they remove a whole chunk from the motor block of both vehicles and swap them.

In the past car thieves often went to greater lengths, sometimes removing whole sections from their written-off acquisition and building them into the stolen model. But nowadays this has become too expensive and the pay-off is not sufficient, so it only happens in isolated cases.

Re-spraying, too, is something that happens mainly in thrillers and not in real life. Crocked car salesman send their vassals out with specific instructions as to what type of car, what colour and what year they should steal.

In order to prevent all this the motor industry is planning to improve its models. But in many cases commercial interests discourage manufacturers from carrying out police recommendations. Since the steering wheel lock there has not been any major development for the protection of vehicles. So far the industry has only decided on more sophisticated locks and slight technical improvements.

Every time a step forward is made for the protection of cars the thieves tend to do their own research and development. Recently it seems they have hit on ways of putting the steering wheel lock out of action.

Ursula Willke

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 6 October 1972)

Police oppose idea of voluntary police reservists

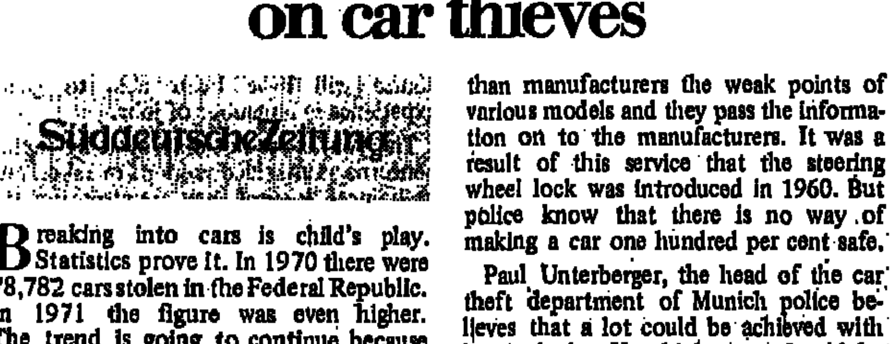
The police union in North Rhine-Westphalia, with a membership of over 42,000, intends to oppose proposals that a voluntary part-time police reserve should be established in the Ruhr and along the Rhine.

Klaus Schlicht, chairman of the police union, is of the view that his members will oppose this proposal because it infringes union rights.

At a press conference in Düsseldorf Klaus Schlicht said that his union will take measures to oppose these proposals, but these measures will cause no inconvenience to the public.

Police officers are expected to refuse to cooperate with the voluntary reservists and will not issue traffic tickets.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 17 October 1972)



Flensburg's harbour (Photo: Gerd Remmer)

Flensburg's crime problem

Frankfurter Rundschau

Flensburg, the city on the German-Danish border in the north of Schleswig-Holstein and with a population of about 100,000, has come under fire from criminologists. Dignitaries of the town have denied categorically that it is a den of thieves.

The battle about the crime rate in the border town with its harbour, red-light district and heavy through traffic began in January. when Richard Bünemann (SPD) a member of the provincial assembly claimed that Flensburg was among the towns with the highest crime rate in the Federal Republic and was some way ahead of Frankfurt am Main in this unenviable respect. Needless to say this statement caused a furore at the town hall and burgomaster Heinz Adler was far from pleased.

Kiel's Minister of the Interior stepped into the breach for Flensburg. Rudolf Titzck (CDU) ascertained at first that Bünemann's allegation was true inasmuch as crime figures for 1968 were concerned, but since then crime in Flensburg has been very much on the decrease. While crime in Schleswig-Holstein as a whole increased by 2.7 per cent in 1970 the number of indictable offences in Flensburg dropped by 14.9 per cent that year.

This might have restored the peace to Flensburg's law-abiding citizens. But then the director of the criminological institute at Kiel University Professor Joachim Hellmer came up with a crime atlas for the whole Federal Republic this summer and the upshot of it all was Flensburg is a crook's paradise.

After three years of investigations Professor Hellmer discovered that the murder rate is highest in Bremen and the most swindles occur in Hamburg. But taking all crimes together Flensburg is the worst.

The reason why, Professor Hellmer says, is that Flensburg is on the border, has a harbour and a red-light quarter. It is a city of transit traffic and therefore the incidence of smuggling is very high. When the Flensburgers heard this second attack and began to fear for their image they set up a front line of defence. Senior public prosecutor in Flensburg Herr Thiemke said that crime was always more prevalent in a border town, but the criminals were mainly foreigners and people passing through, not locals.

Lore Lorenz

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 10 October 1972)

■ SPORT

Boxer Blin retires after Bugner bout

Bremer Nachrichten

Twenty-nine-year-old Jürgen Blin, who lost his European heavyweight boxing championship title to 22-year-old Joe Bugner of England in the Albert Hall, London, retired for good three days after his knock-out.

"You certainly won't be seeing me entering the ring as a boxer ever again. I am hanging up my gloves for good. The beating Bugner gave me hammered the message home," Blin says, gratifyingly realising that there is a limit to what he can accomplish and that the day sooner or later had to come.

Blin has not given up. He merely feels that he has passed his best and that if he were to carry on he would simply be risking his health.

"The family comes first, when all is said and done and my three boys are not going to have a father whose brain will one of these days have been battered to pulp," Blin comments.

He is an engaging Hamburg man and although he never had the class of a Heinten Hoff or a Karl Mildenberger he was always a hard worker in training and in the ring.

He was taught his first lesson last Christmas when Cassius Clay made short shrift of him. "After that fight he was no longer the Blin of old. His self-confidence suffered something of a blow," trainer Hesse says.

Fritz Wiene, his manager and the man who tailor-made Jürgen Blin's career in the ring, concedes that "It was all the more surprising that Blin went on to beat the powerful Urtain of Spain on the Spaniard's home ground and win the European championship title.

"But that was a fight in which both men gave of their best and there can be no doubt that it knocked a lot of the stuffing out of Jürgen Blin. None of us would have believed it but his knock-out by Joe Bugner in London put the record straight."

Fritz Wiene has been a major European boxing promoter and manager for the past 25 years. He has always taken good care to ensure that as much money as possible was earned from a bout but on this occasion he was sensible enough to pay heed to the advice of his many friends not to encourage Blin to fight on after his defeat at Bugner's hands.

So now that Jürgen Blin has hung up his gloves for good Fritz Wiene too is retiring from the business.

Blin has certainly taken the right decision. There have been a good number of examples lately of what happens to boxers who fail to realise that there comes a time when they would do better to call it a day.

Blin versus Bugner at the Albert Hall, London (Photo: dpa)

Gerhard Piaskowy of Berlin, for instance, realised too late that he was little more than a punching-ball for third-rate opponents when he was thrashed three times in succession by Freddy Little, Denny Moyer and Hernandez of Spain.

There can be equally little doubt that boxing in this country has lost in Jürgen Blin one of its last attractions. But the words of ex-world heavyweight boxing champion Max Schmeling echo the general sentiment:

"I would sooner have congratulated Jürgen on a victory over Bugner," Schmeling noted, "but I now feel that he was absolutely right in deciding to retire."

At the bottom of his heart Blin has always been more of an amateur than a professional, attaching greater importance to the sporting than to the financial side.

Yet it must be gratifying to know that in 46 professional bouts and 329 rounds in the ring he has earned 821,465.50 Marks with which to provide for himself and his family comfortably for the rest of their lives.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 14 October 1972)

Lothar Abend wins European featherweight title

Three days after Jürgen Blin's defeat in London at the hands of Joe Bugner this country can lay claim to a replacement as European professional boxing champion.

Lothar Abend from Postfeld, near Kiel, won the title in the super featherweight category with a clear points victory over Domenico Chiloiro of Italy in Hamburg.

"We have not had such a good boxer as European champion for a long time," Theodor Wittenbrink, president of the Association of Federal Republic Professional Boxers commented.

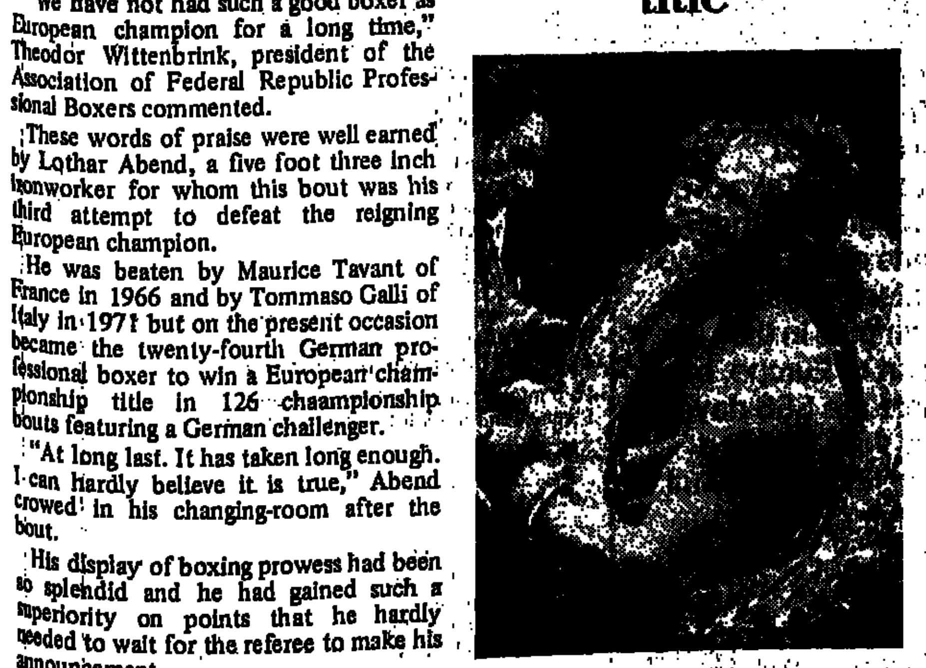
These words of praise were well earned by Lothar Abend, a five foot three inch ironworker for whom this bout was his third attempt to defeat the reigning European champion.

He was beaten by Maurice Tavant of France in 1966 and by Tommaso Galli of Italy in 1971 but on the present occasion became the twenty-fourth German professional boxer to win a European championship title in 126 chaampionship bouts featuring a German challenger.

"At long last. It has taken long enough. I can hardly believe it is true," Abend crowed in his changing-room after the bout.

His display of boxing prowess had been so splendid and he had gained such a superiority on points that he hardly needed to wait for the referee to make his announcement.

Abend and the 5,000 fans were already in a jubilant mood and one spectator was so enthusiastic that he offered the winner an extra 1,000-Mark bonus in prize money.



Lothar Abend (Photo: dpa)

Abend's repertoire included everything that makes boxing such a fine sport. His blows came in a variety of combinations, he showed himself to have a keen eye for the other man's blows giving himself time to avoid them, his reactions were as quick as lightning and his discipline was rock-hard, which allowed him to keep to his own timetable until the final bell.

"That was what worried me most," trainer Winfried Priess said. "Lothar could so easily have let his advantage go to his head. But he took good care to avoid an open exchange of blows that might have represented a risk."

Priess managed Abend as an amateur when he twice won the national championship title and has stayed with his protégé now that he has won the European professional title.

The four weeks' unpaid holiday Abend took to prepare for the fight proved well worth while. "I had enough wind to last for twenty rounds and no trouble at all fitness-wise," he says. "Not once did Chiloiro get in a serious blow."

His one wish is now to retain the title as long as possible and earn as much money as he can. He will next be in the ring on 25 November in Kiel and, probably, in December in Hamburg. According to the statutes of the European Boxing Union he has six months in which to defend his title.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 16 October 1972)

New broom at the top in amateur boxing

Ever since the Olympics and an amateur boxing tournament that was most successful from this country's point of view a new broom has swept the dusty chambers of the Federal Republic Amateur Boxing Association.

The Olympic successes of Dieter Kottysch of Hamburg, gold medallist, Peter Hussing of Mülheim, bronze medallist, Günther Meier of Munich and Rudi Hornig of Berlin, both placed fifth in their respective weights, and quarter-finalist Peter Hess of Leverkusen have given amateur boxing a fresh lease of life.

Not even the spectacular resignation of President Paul Idziok of Berlin has been able to hinder developments in amateur boxing. If anything it has accelerated them.

The new men at the helm have boosted their activity as a result. The former press secretary and current Vice-President Günter van Bel of Velbert knows the ropes too well to be particularly upset by Idziok's resignation.

"We will have to evaluate the successes notched up by our boxers in Munich and plan on a long-term basis. We will do so too and will be taking care to ensure that the boom lasts as long as possible."

It was more than convenient for the amateur boxing association that Federal and senior league club points fixtures started immediately after the Olympics. Olympic competitors who did not hang up their gloves thus had no time to rest on their laurels.

The only Olympic boxers so far to retire are gold medallist Dieter Kottysch ("No one is ever going to see me in the ring in gloves again") and Ewald Jarmer.

There are so many club competitions between now and mid-December that the association is at present trying to negotiate new dates for internationals against Poland and France.

The people immediately concerned are less enthusiastic about postponements. "The Olympic tournament demonstrated how greatly a boxer is taxed when he has to fight up to six bouts in a bare fortnight," chief coach Dieter Wemhöner says.

"We will have to accustom our boxers to this sort of atmosphere more than in the past. They will have to take part in as many tournaments as at all possible."

This demand is nothing new. The sole reason why nothing has come of it in the past is that the association has failed to gain invitations to take part in the many contests held in the Soviet Union, Poland, Rumania, Bulgaria, the GDR and Hungary.

"We need a manager for the national team," it is now reckoned among the association's ranks. "It must be a man who can ensure that our first-, second-, and third-rank boxers have a continuous succession of fights against opponents who will help them along their way towards improvement."

An honorary sports secretary such as Paul Günnemann of Essen, who plans to retire at the next AGM at the latest, is overburdened by the organisational demands of a post of this kind.

This is why Presidential candidate van Bel is on the lookout for a full-time sports director. Heinz Schwarz of Essen, the current trainer of the juniors, is the most likely candidate for the job.

The ABA plans to sweep with a new broom in other respects too. "The days when one man ruled the roost are over and done with," van Bel says. "We will be delegating responsibility more than in the past."

The association never by any stretch of the imagination suspected its boxers would do as well as they did do at the Munich Olympics and a new broom cannot fail to improve matters.

Claus Mittenzwei

(Bremer Nachrichten, 5 October 1972)